

Northern Light
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Northern Light is
May 1, 2020

This is YOUR Newsletter Area 35

Morning Everyone,

It is sad for me to announce that the Spring Assembly has been canceled due to our concern for the safety of the fellowship during this epidemic. The goal will remain the same though, to get the voice of Area 35 on the current agenda items so I can carry that voice to the GSC in April. The actual assembly of the GSC has been changed to a video conference. So I will not be going to New York but I will be representing Area 35 from my home office. It is an interesting time for all of us, but we as always will come out the better. How we plan to get the voice of the fellowship is by creating a survey for each committee that can be completed online. These surveys will be emailed out to everyone, I will start with emailing them out to Area officers, Area Committee chairs and DCM's. The DCM's will have the largest responsibility to get them into the inboxes of their district committee officers, chairs and GSR's. For those who don't have access to computers or may need some help please offer them assistance so they may have their voice heard. These surveys will NOT be limited to voting members of an assembly, we want every and all members of Area 35 to be able to voice their opinions. What you will find in the survey is each agenda item will be listed individually, you will then be able to answer, agree or disagree, and also be able to add comments about the agenda item. People can conduct the survey until APRIL 15TH to give as many an opportunity to respond. If your district feels comfortable, I am available to come and discuss the agenda items with you. Please call to make a date.

In Service Jim S. Delegate

Send articles and comments for publication to
Cindy S-K — 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

2020-2021 AREA 35 COMMITTEE

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p><u>AREA OFFICERS</u></p> <p><u>DELEGATE</u> Jim S delegate@area35.org</p> <p><u>ALT DELEGATE</u> Steven L alt_delegate@area35.org</p> <p><u>AREA CHAIR</u> Gayle R areachair@area35.org</p> <p><u>TREASURER</u> Justin W treasurer@area35.org</p> <p><u>SECRETARY</u> Heidi B secretary@area35.org</p> <p><u>AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRS</u></p> <p><u>PUBLIC INFORMATION</u> Greg C pi@area35.org</p> <p><u>ARCHIVES</u> Peter T archives@area35.org</p> <p><u>ARCHIVIST</u></p> <p><i>No one at this time</i></p> <p>archivist@area35.org</p> <p><u>CORRECTIONS</u> Robert (Butch) corrections@area35.org</p> <p><u>LITERATURE</u> Bruce M literature@area35.org</p> <p><u>GRAPEVINE</u> Pat M grapevine@area35.org</p> | <p><u>(C.P.C.) COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSION-AL COMMUNITY</u> Brian P cpc@area35.org</p> <p><u>TREATMENT</u> Melissa M treatment@area35.org</p> <p><u>WEBMASTER</u> Thomas H webmaster@area35.org</p> <p><u>GROUP RECORDS</u> Sally L grouprecords@area35.org</p> <p><u>NORTHERN LIGHT</u> Cindy S-K northernlight@area35.org</p> <p><u>FINANCIAL OVER-SIGHT COMMITTEE</u> Christine Gerth</p> <p>Roger Rudolph</p> <p><u>AUDIO ENGINEER</u> Mike P</p> <p><u>(D.C.M.'s) DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS</u></p> <p><u>DISTRICT 1</u> Laura C dcm1@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 2</u> Daniel W dcm2@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 3</u> Tom O dcm3@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 4</u> Colleen S dcm4@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 5</u> Terry P dcm5@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 6</u> Mike U dcm6@area35.org</p> | <p><u>DISTRICT 7</u> Tim V dcm7@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 8</u> Nels P dcm8@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 9</u> Ricco R dcm9@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 11</u> Kurt N dcm11@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 12</u> Shelley H dcm12@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 13</u> Denise R dcm13@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 14</u></p> <p><i>No information</i></p> <p>dcm14@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 15</u> Stephanie S dcm15@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 16</u> Katy P dcm16@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 17</u></p> <p><i>No information</i></p> <p>dcm17@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 18</u> Janie F dcm18@area35.org</p> <p><u>DISTRICT 21</u> John W dcm21@area35.org</p> |
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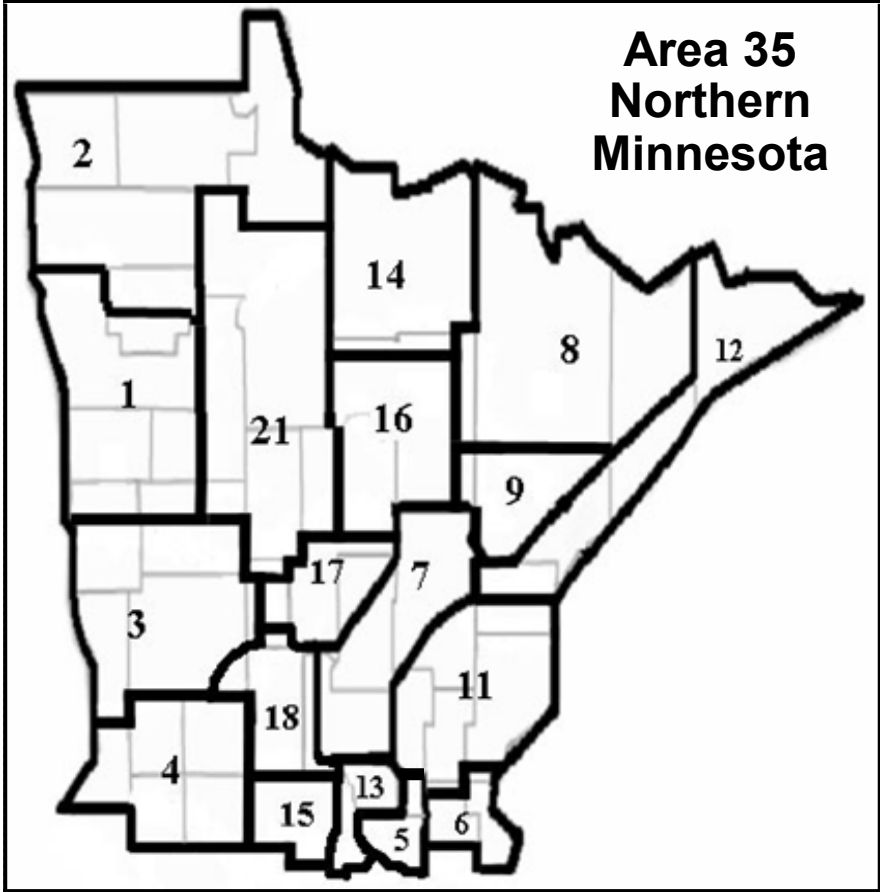
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Zone I

- 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 , New London

Zone III

- District 5** - Becker, Big Lake, Elk River, Milaca, Otsego, Princeton, Zimmerman
- District 6** - Braham, Bethel, Cambridge, Forest Lake, Harris, Isanti, North Branch, Rock Creek, Stacy, St. Francis, Rush City
- District 7** - Aitkin, Baxter, Brainerd, Fort Ripley, Garrison, Ironton, Isle, Little Falls*, Malmo, McGregor*, Palisade, Pierz, Pilager*, Wahkon
- District 11** - Finlayson*, Grasston, Henriette, Hinckley*, Lake Lena, Moose Lake*, Mora, Ogilvie, Pine City, Quamba, Sandstone, Willow River
- District 13** - Kimball, Rice, St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids, Waite Park, Foley
- District 17** - Backus, Cross Lake, Nisswa, Pequot Lakes, Pillager*, Pine River
- District 18** - Browerville, Clarissa, Eagle Bend, Little Falls*, Long Prairie, Motley, Parkers Prairie, Staples, Verndale

Zone IV

- District 8** - Alango, Aurora, Babbitt, Biwabik, Cook, Cotton, Ely, Eveleth, Gilbert, Hoyt Lakes, Mountain Iron, Nett Lake, Orr, Palo, Pike, Tower, Virginia, Zim*
- District 9** - Chisholm, Floodwood, Goodland, Hibbing*, Keewatin, Kelly Lake, Lawrence Lake*, Nashwauk*
- District 12** - Beaver Bay, Silver Bay, Brimson, Brookston, Cloquet, Duluth, Esko, Finland, Fredenberg, Grand Marais, Grand Portage, Hermantown, Knife River, Lawrence Lake*, Lutsen, Mahtowa, Pike Lake, Proctor, Sawyer, Silver Bay, Foxborro (Wisconsin), Side Lake, Superior (Wisconsin), Toivola, Two Harbors
- District 14** - International Falls, Littlefork

** In cities marked with an asterisk, some meetings consider themselves to be in one District, and some meetings consider themselves to be in another District.*

District Meeting Location Information

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| <p><u>District 1</u> 2nd Sunday of even months, 2:00 p.m. Fertile Community Center 101 S Mill St, Fertile, MN 56540</p> <p><u>District 2</u> 1st Sunday of Odd Months, 3:00 p.m. Thief River Falls Alano Club 614 Davis Ave Thief River Falls, MN 56701</p> <p><u>District 3</u> 3rd Sunday of Month, 10:00 a.m. Alano Club 827 Summit Avenue Detroit Lakes, MN 56501</p> <p><u>District 4</u> 3rd Saturday of Month, 5:30 p.m. Contact DCM for location (It Rotates) Potluck at 6:30 p.m. Round Robin at 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><u>District 5</u> 3rd Monday of Month, 7 p.m. (use side door that opens to parking lot) Trinity Lutheran Church 111 N 6th Ave Princeton, MN 55371</p> <p><u>District 6</u> 3rd Thursday of Month, 7:00 p.m. Spring Lake Lutheran Church 8440 Erickson Rd NE North Branch, MN 55056</p> | <p><u>District 7</u> 3rd Thursday of Month, 7:00 p.m. First Congregational United Church 415 Juniper Street Brainerd, MN 56401</p> <p><u>District 8</u> Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m. General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Contact DCM for location “It Rotates”</p> <p><u>District 9</u> Last Sunday of Month, 6:00 p.m. Hibbing Alano Club 3725 1st Avenue Hibbing, MN 55746</p> <p><u>District 11</u> 1st Tuesday of Month, 7:00 p.m. Peace Lutheran 2177 Hwy 18 Finlayson, MN 55735</p> <p><u>District 12</u> 3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30 p.m. 1100 E Superior Street Duluth, MN Handicap Accessible,</p> <p><u>District 13</u> 1st Monday of Month, 7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. St. Cloud Alano Club 127 7th Ave NE Saint Cloud, MN 56301</p> | <p><u>District 14</u> 3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30pm Coffee Landing 444 3rd Street International Falls, MN 56649</p> <p><u>District 15</u> 1st Monday of Month, 8:00 p.m. Albany Community Center 741 Lake Ave Albany, MN 56307</p> <p><u>District 16</u> 1st Wednesday of Month, 6:30 p.m. United Methodist Church 1701 SE 5th Ave Grand Rapids, MN 55744 Handicap Accessible, Non-Smoking</p> <p><u>District 18</u> 1st Tuesday of Month, 6:00 p.m. Long Prairie Alano Club 21 2nd Ave Long Prairie, MN 56347</p> <p><u>District 21</u> 2nd Monday of Month, 7:00 p.m. Bemidji Alano Club 3802 Greenleaf Ave NW Bemidji, MN 56601</p> <p><u>District 17</u></p> |
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Area 35 Committee Meeting Minutes
Aitkin, MN
February 23, 2020
Area 35 Committee Meeting Minutes
Aitkin, MN
February 23, 2020

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

Recognition of Past Area 35 Delegates in Attendance: Christine G Panel 68 and Kelly D Panel 66

Additions to the Agenda: Northern Light flier procedures – Justin W, Area 35 Treasurer. Archives Software – Peter T, Archives Chair.

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

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE- Jim

Good Morning Everyone,

As I sit here attempting to type this report, I am filled with deep gratitude for the opportunity you have given me. I would appreciate any feedback during breaks, lunch or after the meeting today as to whether you felt the report could have been condensed further or expanded for great clarity.

I want to say what an unbelievable success in terms of attendance and participation the Annual Service Workshop was. I know Steve will be commenting on this as well. It was truly wonderful to see as in the past 4 years or so attendance was around the 60 to maybe topping out at 80 people per event and this year, I believe we were around the 110 people. I am anxious to read the evaluation forms once Steve has them compiled that I hope you all filled out. I believe the presentations were well thought out and presented in a manner that kept a person’s interest. I was thrilled to have the opportunity to have dinner with Cate along with Steve and Gayle. I do have the hardcopies of the agenda items here with me along with a list of those that wanted them. My count was 14 copies, but I did make 15 in the event another DCM would like it. For anyone else that would like a hard copy it would be the responsibility of the district or group you are a member of to obtain a hardcopy. It is up on the website, thank you Rillis, for those of you who would like to download it directly to your computer. She has uploaded them by committee, so it won’t be as difficult to download them. The password is gsc202035. This password has been emailed out to all Area officers and committee chairs, DCM’s and past delegates. DCM’s, please make sure you are getting this information to your district committee chairs and GSR’s so they can relay the information to whoever may sit on their committee or to your group. Why haven’t I mentioned the discs you may be thinking? Well, I couldn’t find one printer who makes discs anymore. So, I believe the next best solution was to get thumb-drives. I feel confident that the vast majority of computers have a USB drive in that this could be inserted, you can then load the agenda items onto your computer. You can also take this thumb drive to any print shop to make hard copies for your district or group members quite easily. The Area has paid for these so they should be returned in June or August at the ACM meetings to myself.

The WCRAASC is next week and I hope you can all make it. I will be leaving Thursday morning as I plan to be there around 5pm Thursday afternoon. I hope those of you who had reservations at one of the previous hotels called to make sure your reservation was canceled and that a new one was made was the Big Horn Hotel. Your credit card information was not passed from one hotel to the other for confidentiality purposes, so it is important you contact the Big Horn with that information to confirm your reservation. Is there anyone here that hasn’t made their reservations and needs the phone number of any other piece of information regarding this event? If you do, please see me at the break, lunch or afterwards. I am leaving Thursday as the delegates of the West Central Region meeting Thursday night with our Regional Trustee that night for about 2.5 hours. Then Friday morning, we have a Past and Present delegates meeting Friday morning. I know these can get long, but I encourage you to come and learn as much as you can. I feel this Area has done a great job in the past with sending its delegates to the GSC well informed and I look forward to that experience myself.

Between the WCRAASC and Spring Assembly we will have a chance to discuss these at our districts. If you would like myself, or you can ask any member of the Area Officers or Committee chairs if they are available to come and assist with going through them, don’t hesitate to ask me. I will make every effort to accommodate you. Again, if you are interested please see me at the breaks, lunch or afterwards. I remember a gentleman wanted to set up a time for the delegate’s report this summer, if he is here please come find me so we can get that set up.

The Spring Assembly will be held as it has in the past, with the whole assembly meeting in the big room to discuss each agenda item. We will take the time needed to get through them completely but try not to take more time than needed. Please remember, one of the greatest aspects of this process is that while not everyone gets to vote, everyone gets to voice their opinions, unless the opinion has already been expressed then we ask you to hold on to it. We have been at the Hibbing Park and Hotel before and I found the room suffi-

cient to conduct business in.

For those of you who have been sending in contributions to GSO, you may have noticed on the receipt you received from them a different number than your current group number. I have included an excerpt from the letter from the finance officer of the GSO, it states: the recent acknowledgement letter you received indicates a group ID, which is a unique identification number generated by our newly adopted ERP. Typically, this identifier is filled to a standardized length of nine characters by displaying leading zeros. However, these leading zeroes were left out due to a technical issue that did not manifest during our mailing’s tests. We will correct this with our mailing vendor.

Additionally, for groups with service numbers from our previous system, you can still use them in your communications with GSO. While they do not appreciate on the new acknowledgements, they are still stored in our system along with the rest of your group’s information.

Going forward, we will continue to research the new application to determine how to present both legacy groups numbers and ERP groups ID’s where appropriate and will keep you informed of this progress. In my conversation with Tom A about this, now that the ERP system is being utilized, it was his understanding that the legacy groups numbers will be phased out over a period, of which he was not aware of nor was mentioned in this letter and the new ERP number will be used to identify your group. Please, make your GSR’s aware of this change so they will understand what the new number of their receipts for contributions are.

The Hot Topics, I have made the decision to not create the Hot Topics as they are a reflection of what I think are important and not the fellowship. Instead of printing all the background which costs money, the condensed version without background which costs money and then create a shortened version of the condensed version which also costs money doesn’t make sense to me. The Hot Topics takes a 6-page document down to 3. If you feel I have made a poor decision, please let me know and I will reconsider my stance. If not, I will proceed as I am.

In Service, Jim S.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE- Steve L

Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen,

Well the Agenda Item spell is upon us again. I’ve had a chance to look over this year’s agenda Items and Background info. I’m looking forward to the discussions at the WCRAASC and our spring assembly. I speculate there is going to be much discussion about a few of them. Spoiler alert Like CPC, Literature, Grapevine and PI. I’ll be leaving around 1am Thursday with Butch, Jerry and finally pickup Jim to make it out to Billings for the WCRAASC. We will have much to talk about so the trip should go fast. For the month of March if any District would like me to sit in your Agenda Item meeting or District meeting to help explain the CAI’s I’m at your service.

I’ve contacted the DCM’s from Zone III Terry, Sharna, Tim, Kurt, Denise and Janie about were to have next years the Area workshop. The last time it was held in Zone III it was 2016 in St Cloud at Midtown Square. We will meet during lunch back in the PI room.

I attended District 8’s workshop yesterday on Concepts sprinkled with a Sponsorship skit and participated in a Sponsorship presentation. Fun time had by all. Great presentations with discussion and good food.

I can’t remember when the last time if ever we had to remove a wall to fit in the people to attend an Area Workshop. WOW, is that a nice feeling to see so many people there. The Area put on an outstanding workshop I truly felt privileged to be the facilitator for all the Districts presentations. All the presentations were well prepared and presented with thoughtful and pertinent information. Volunteers were great. Give yourselves a big pat on the back for a job well done. To end it all someone forgot their purse on one of the chairs. We were able to track down the person before they left town. On an amusing note a week before I had lost my wallet. Looked and called every place I was that day. Monday after the workshop the doorbell rings and there is an officer asking me if I was missing anything and returned my wallet with nothing missing.

The DCM and GSR who chaired your breakout session please send your reports to Cindy to publish in the next issue of the NL.

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| Room Rental | 1268.34 |
| Registration Fee’s collected | 1170 |
| Loss | -98.34 |
| Coffee receipts Collected | 295.75 |
| Coffee seed | 50 |
| Beverage station fee 1/25 | 75 |
| Coffee Urns 9 at 15 ea | 135 |
| Beverage station fee 1/26 | 75 |
| | 335 |
| Coffee Loss | -39.25 |
| Total Loss | -137.59 |
| AREA CHAIR – Gayle R | |

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Good Morning Area 35, the opportunity to serve Area 35 is an honor and a privilege.

I am finding that the Area Chair has tasks on a daily basis. As we settle into our positions, at times we may feel overwhelmed, at least I do. I usually tell others to do the best you can and ask for help if you need to. Taking my own advice is a challenge for me.

I enjoyed the presentations at the Workshop in January along with our guest Cate, Western Canada Regional Trustee. Each district who presented were well planned and thought out. Thank you to those who presented.

The Spring Assembly is coming up as we will talk about in a bit. I am sure we will send Jim well prepared with the voice of Area 35 to the General Service Conference in Rye, NY . As your districts go through the Agenda please remember that Area servants are here to assist you as best we can.. We would be more than happy to come to your district to help with discussion and/or clarification of the agenda items.

The WCRAASC is next weekend in Billings, Montana for more Regional discussion of Agenda items and to meet our counterparts throughout the Region along with breakout sessions on topics selected by the hosting area. Cindy has set the deadline for the Northern Light to be March 6, that gives us time to submit a report about the WCRAASC, so if you’re an Area servant and are going please write that report. If you’re a DCM or an action chair, your reports are welcome as well.

Budgets are in this edition of the Northern Light we will be asking for approval at the Spring Assembly in Hibbing in April. If anyone has any questions, please ask. Currently we don’t have an Archivist, but I did include an estimated budget so when we get one, we won’t have to ask for an additional approval. Also Mike F, has stepped down as webmaster. I look forward to seeing Mike in service in the future. I would like to thank Rillis for stepping up and filling in getting the agenda items up and getting this rotation on area35.org. I really appreciate her. We have a candidate here today, Thomas H.

I am a person who makes lots and lots of mistakes, so just remember you elected me warts and all.. I keep learning as we go, like all of us I’m sure I will have this position down by the time I rotate out.

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

SECRETARY-Heidi B

Hello Area 35,
I’m so honored and excited to be serving as Secretary for Area 35. Service work is such an important part of my program and am grateful for the opportunities I have been given.
I attended the January Service Workshop in Grand Rapids. I really enjoyed the presentations and skits and appreciate the work that was put into them. A big thank you to our Western Canada Trustee Cate W for sharing her story and service history with us.
I will be attending the WCRAASC in Billings next week. I look forward to going through the agenda items and hearing the discussions regarding each item. Although exhausting, this is one of my favorite service events.
Yesterday, I attended a terrific workshop by District 8 on the Twelve Concepts and sponsorship. I presented Concept 4 and participated in the sponsorship skit. It’s always helpful to hear about Concepts and how they work in our Program.
I would like all DCM’s to please send me the minutes for your district meetings so that I can stay informed. Please send all Area Committee Meeting reports to me by Wednesday, Feb 26th as the Northern Light due date is March 6th. Melissa M. has finished the Past Action Booklet and it is on the back table. Thank you, Melissa!
Again, thank you for allowing me to serve Area 35. I look forward to being of service and working with all of you during this next rotation.
Yours in Service, Heidi B

TREASURER- Justin W

Greetings from your alcoholic treasurer,
I wanted to share with you my sentiment regarding our previous treasurer, Mike F. This guy has been a great example of steadfast commitment to general service and I thought you all should know it. He has taken responsibility for the transfer of the treasury responsibilities in spite of some very extenuating personal circumstances in his life. He’s been available every time I needed to talk to him, and has never expressed any frustration in doing so. His example is going to make it much harder for me to excuse myself from my commitment to the area for any personal reason, which is a blessing for you all, and a resentment for me.
I have yet to create and distribute any contribution receipts this rotation, but I assure you we will be sending them out during this rotation.
It occurred to me during the Service Workshop that we don’t have any accountability when the area receives cash. I have made considerable changes to the system which will allow for cash receipts to change hands when the cash is received. This will serve as an agreement between myself and the person giving me the cash. We will both initial the bottom of the receipt so that there can be no question later on how much cash was received, and whether or not it was all accounted for in the system. While we’re talking about this, I will also always provide a receipt from any money received or paid, and would like your help in assuring that the transaction is correct, with regards to the amount and

the expense accounts that are associated with the transaction.
Two different roundups placed orders with the Cold Spring Printer last year, and we weren't notified and didn’t receive the payments. I have since contacted both parties and entered invoices for them into the system so that we can be sure not to forget about it. We agreed that the Cold Spring Printer should not take orders for Northern Light Flyer Inserts or anything else for that matter except from the Area Committee. This way we can have some control over making sure all of the transactions with them are accounted for. I will contact them and confirm this.
We discussed printing the IEC reports with all of the accounts collapsed in order to save on printing costs, but the group said they wanted to see the group contributions expanded. The next reports will have the income accounts expanded and the expense accounts collapsed.
I made it through the FOC Interrogation without being fired! I must say I was a little intimidated when entering the dimly lit back room, single light bulb swaying back and forth. These guys aren’t messing around! You’re in good hands.
Thank You All for this opportunity to serve the Area.

COMMITTEE CHAIR & DCM REPORTS

CPC – Brian P

My name is Brian and I am an alcoholic and your CPC Chair for this rotation

This was our first meeting with all the Area 35 officers.

We had a good group of CPC and PI about 13 people attended from 11 different districts. We went around the room with introductions and sharing what each person was doing in their district for CPC / PI and what was working. We shared on different ways to get into visit doctors, judges, teachers and churches

I think we learned also that the CPC interacts with many of the other Area Chairs and officers. We need to cooperate with Corrections, Treatment, and Public Information and all the different levels Area and District.

I offered an assignment to each of the CPC chairs to try and find or contact 5 new people before we meet for the Spring Assembly in April

Thank for allowing me to Serve, Brian P.

DISTRICT 9 – Ricco R

We got our GSR Service Workshop Committee off the ground at our first meeting held on 2/6. Ten dedicated service people showed up: 8 from District 9 and two from District 16. We covered a lot of ground and made some tentative plans for our cooperative endeavors with District 16 and District 8. We already have some plans that are in play, but some need to be taken back to the Districts for approval. We also made some tentative plans for own District and we will be bringing them back to our District for approval. Our next service workshop committee meeting will be held on 3/15 at the same location and same time. We will send out flyers.

Other dedicated service people and I from District 9 attended the Area 35 Workshop and everyone I talked to said it was very well put together and informative. We all thank you from Area 35 for your service and hard work putting it together.

I received a nice, friendly e-mail from Greg C., the new P. I. Action Committee Chair for Area 35. Greg offered his support to us in any way it would help us with our P.I. Service work. I forwarded the information to our P.I. officer Phyllis for District 9.

Our Area35 Delegate Jim S sent the password and put the 2020 agenda on Ar-
ea35.org. We will also be holding a workshop on the agenda items. Date to be determined. Will send out flyers.

District 9 was invited by District 8 to participate in a “kick butt” workshop on 2/22/2020 on Sponsorship and the 12 Concepts. We did Concepts 9 and 10. We thank District 8.

In Unity and Service, Ricco R.

DISTRICT 4 – Colleen S

No report, not present

WEBMASTER – Rillis E

Greetings,
I attended the Service Workshop in January which was held in Grand Rapids and appreciate the time and energy everyone put into their presentations. This was probably the best Service Workshop I have attended. It was great to see over 100 people attend this event and especially exciting to see many new people getting involved in service.
I have been busy placing flyers for events on the Area Calendar. I reviewed the newest edition of the Northern Light for anonymity breaks before placing it on the Area website. If you notice any anonymity breaks on the website, please contact the Webmaster or Area Chair so it can be corrected. The General Service Conference background information and final list of agenda items has been placed on the area website. The Background information can be viewed as one entire document or divided into individual committees. The information is password protected and that password is gsc202035. If you have any ques-

(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)
tions or problems accessing the information please contact me at admin@area35.org. The updated flyer for the WCRAASC with the new location for the event is on the calendar.
I paid the annual fee for the Linksky website hosting service which was \$119.40. Yesterday I updated the email forwarders for the DCMs for districts 15 and 21. If you did not get the test email I sent out please let me know. I will be attending the WCRAASC next weekend and am looking forward to that event.
Yours in Service,
Rillis E, Webmaster

LITERATURE – Bruce M

Districts 5, 7 and 6 represented (7). I discussed my goals (expectations on how to order). District 7 has a set in braille. Answered questions about ordering. Let DCM’s (Lit Chair not present) to pass to Lit Chair how to order.

DISTRICT 14 –
No report, not present

DISTRICT 3 – Tom O
No report

NORTHERN LIGHT – Cindy S -K

Hi Everyone!
My name is Cindy S-K your area 35 newsletter editor. This position has been a humbling experience, I got the first newsletter out but not without errors and big mistakes. I apologize upfront and promise that each edition will be better than the one before it. If there are any changes that need to be made to your information that is listed in the newsletter please bring to my attention. I will make the changes for the next edition. Thank you for your patience and understanding.
I will be heading to the WRCAASC in Billings Montana. Looking forward to lively discussions and meeting new people. Always a great time.
Thank you for the opportunity to serve,
Cindy S-K

DISTRICT 8 – Nels P

District 8 just held our annual workshop yesterday. We had great attendance, great presentations and great fellowship followed by our speaker, Dave A from Ely. We had presentations on sponsorship as well as the Twelve Concepts. A special thank you to all our presenters. All our district positions are filled with the exception of Secretary. We recently have had some new GSRs from Virginia and Ely and our hope is to get more people involved. A little story about signing up for service commitments. I recently spoke at Range Treatment Center and one of the patient’s in the treatment center got my phone number from a contact sheet and called me and asked me to sponsor him, which I am doing. My thought was what if I had blown off my commitment? And nobody was there to carry the message? We give freely of what has been given to us. I also will be attending the Western Regional Service Conference in Billings and look forward to bringing the information back to my district. Agenda items will be discussed at our agenda items meeting on March 14th, 12 – 4 at Peace United Methodist Church in Virginia.

Yours in service, Nels P.

GROUP RECORDS – Sally L

Greetings, Area 35,

I have been processing a lot of changes for the Area. With the change of rotation, I am pretty busy. I had training on the new database system at the end of January. I have the ability to print reports but not to make any changes. I still have to send all the changes to the records department at GSO. They have been working very hard, but they are still two months behind on processing. They are receiving upwards of 275 requests for changes per day. Please send all changes to me so I can update what I can, and I will forward the changes to GSO.

GSO was hoping to be far enough along with the switchover to the new database to allow registrars make changes to the database by the end of March, but progress is slow. I received an email from Greg T., the general manager at GSO last week that stated the full implementation date has been pushed back indefinitely.

I sent a list of the meetings in each district to the DCMs of those districts. There are two group numbers on those spreadsheets, the old (Legacy) number, and the new NetSuite number. The old numbers will be phased out in the next few months, so use the new numbers for all future correspondence, contributions, and orders.

I attended the Area Workshop in Grand Rapids and enjoyed it very much. The most important thing I learned was from Cate, the Western Canada trustee, who provided an easy way to remember the difference between Class A and Class B trustees. Class As are amateurs, and Class Bs are boozers!
I am planning to attend the WCRAASC in Billings to go over the agenda items. I look forward to that.

In service, Sally L.

DISTRICT 2 – Danny W

Our last District meeting was held January 5th with 9 people attending. Highlights of this meeting included group reports by those in attendance who attend

meetings at the different groups. With that in mind, we had reports from 3 of the groups in Thief River Falls and from one of the Warroad groups.

We have a new GSR for the Warroad group which is exciting to see someone step-up and make the commitment to be involved. We also elected a new District Treasurer as it was time to make a rotation for that position.

There was discussion about implementing AA meetings at the TRFs Correctional Center. This option is being investigated further. DCM provided the group with updates from the December Area meeting in Aitkin.

As DCM I provided the attendees information about the upcoming Area 35 Workshop. I also gave folks the dates and locations for the 2020 Spring and Fall Assemblies and urge them to attend. I provided attendees with the address where to send donations to Area 35.

I continue to send out information via email. I am not sure how effective this is since a couple of AA members I asked said they were not passing the information along to their group(s). As well, I am starting to make rounds visiting District 2 meeting encouraging them to participate in service.

Another practice I started in District 2 is providing a short writing on our 12 Concepts. I am doing this as much for myself as for anyone else and plan on sending a short describing of each Concept monthly schedule.

Our next District meeting will be March 1st in Thief River Falls at the Twin Rivers Clubhouse at 3 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Danny W.

DISTRICT 15 – Stephanie S

Hello, my name is Stephanie S. My husband, Jim and I, moved to Melrose last May to be close to family. We moved from Sturgis, SD, Area 63. I volunteered to be District 15 DCM in Area 35 and this is my DCM report. There was much excitement at the first district meeting I attended this month. The upcoming Stearns County Roundup for one. I have attended many meetings at Lake Henry. Lake Henry has an annual summer event. I wasn’t able to attend last year. Melrose, Sauk Center 11am Thursday meetings. All very welcoming. Belgrade 7pm Thursday evening Open Big Book Study. All very friendly people in the District carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. Cold Spring 6:30 meeting Mondays, one of many great meetings there. Join them in Cold Spring the first Saturday of each month at 6pm potluck and speakers to follow. Also check out the Back to Basics meeting held at Tutti Frutti’s Melrose/Sauk Center group, Wednesday night at 7 while you’re in the area. I will be attending the Sartell 6:30 meeting Mar 19th. I look forward to attending more groups in the district.

The Melrose Working Through the Steps in a weekend was a great success and well attended. The Melrose Group is implementing a new format into their meetings and holding a monthly group conscience meeting. Check out the regular meeting Wednesday evenings at 7.

I spoke with Sally L and gave her my name and address and email info. Pat M. is attending the West Central Regional Conference and will be bringing back the agenda items to the next district meeting for the GSR’s to take back to their groups. Thank you Pat M.

Thank you District 15 for allowing me to be of service in Area 35, Stephanie S

TREATMENT – Melissa M

Greetings Area 35,

My name is Melissa and I am an alcoholic, currently serving as your Area 35 Treatment Chair.
I hope all is well and everyone is excited about this new rotation! I am looking forward to learning what this position entails. I have finished the Area 35 Actions Book, which you can find on the back table. I suggest that everyone takes one because there is so much useful information that can be helpful to you. I wanted to mention that I did use last names for the new incoming Area Chairs. The Area 35 Actions Book stated that I should use last names in case it is needed for banking purposes. The total cost for 150 copies to be printed was \$793.35. I budgeted for \$750.00 so there is a \$45 difference.
I will be connecting with Heidi after the ACM today to give her the flash drive for the secretary position and fill her in on certain things that could be helpful for her during this rotation.

I helped facilitate a Traditions Workshop along with Kelly DempSKI on February 8th, 2020 in Princeton, which went amazing! We had a great turn out and great discussions. We used the 12 Traditions CD of Bill W’s talk on the Traditions along with a transcript that I typed up verbatim so that everyone could follow along. If anyone wants the CD and transcript please let me know.

I look forward to attending the West Central Regional AA Service Conference. I wanted to mention that I originally had different plans when it came to traveling to the conference, but those plans have changed which is going to change the budget that I turned into the Area.

We had 5 people in attendance at our committee meeting this morning. We had District 13, 16, 6 and 12. The Districts reported the following:

John from District 13 -stated that he has been reaching out to treatment centers within District 13 to see if there is anything they can do to carry the message into their facilities. John stated that there are people from District 13 bringing meetings into Minnesota Teen Challenge located in Brainerd. John stated that

(Continued on page 7)

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he was contacted by the director of a Senior Center in Kimball asking for help from Alcoholics Anonymous and they are working with them to help fulfill their needs.

Tony from District 6 - stated that they haven't had a treatment center in their District for years. Tony stated that he has been in contact with a treatment center in Cambridge and is in the process of trying to find speakers to bring into that center.

Glenn District 16 – stated that they have been contacted by a treatment center for adolescents in Area 36 located in Winnebago, MN. Glenn said that they were interested in setting up temporary sponsors. Glenn stated that they are working with them to help them set that up and getting them the appropriate information they need. Glenn said that they have 5 places that they currently speak at and that he is currently working with Hope House in Grand Rapids, MN.

Our committee set two goals for this rotation, which are:

1.) Read through the Treatment Committee Workbook together.

2.) Write District reports prior to our breakout sessions and have the Area Treatment Chair email the notes taken during the breakout session to the District Treatment Chairs within Area 35.

We had discussions on the following:

*Figure out what treatment centers within your District's already have meetings being brought in. Then figure out which treatment centers do not have meetings being brought in and contact those treatment centers.

*The importance of having face-to-face conversations with the treatment staff.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service, Melissa M.

DISTRICT 13 – Denise R

Greetings from District 13!

I am grateful for the opportunity to be able to serve District 13. I feel like I have hit the ground running! I attended the January Workshop in Grand Rapids and met a ton of new people and DCM's. I will be the secretary for the DCM Sharing sessions this rotation. There was a lot of good information at the Workshop and enjoyed being a part of it.

I have received several emails from the District 13 DCM email address, including a request from the Manager at the Assisted Living place in Kimball that was looking for help from Alcoholics Anonymous for some of their residents. Our Treatments Chair, John, and another member of the Treatments Committee and I were able to visit with the Manager and bring information to them along with a fully stocked literature rack and a bunch of Grapevines. The rack and Grapevines now sit in their community TV room. We were able to contact a few members from our Kimball meeting that will stay in touch with the facility. We will also keep in contact to see how we can help moving forward to possibly bring in a Beginner's meeting or Open meeting for their residents.

Of course this made me wonder if we couldn't also look at starting a CEC Committee in conjunction with our Treatments and or CPC committee. There are so many nursing homes and assisted living places in our community and District.

There were several other email requests asking for meetings in the area. Being the new DCM, I am somewhat surprised to receive this many inquiries from that email source. I guess that tells me people are able to find us pretty easily.

It seemed like everyone was excited to start the new rotation. At January's District meeting we had 9 new GSR's and a total of 15 GSR's, 3 alternate GSR's and an overall attendance. Our February meeting we had 9 GSR's and 1 Alternate, 8 Officers/Committee Chairs, 3 others for a total of 21.

Our District has openings for a CPC Chair, Archives Chair and our Literature Chair recently stepped down. Myself and our Alternate DCM Peggy M. will see what we can do to cover some of those areas.

Our P.I. Committee held a training session for our AA Assistance line volunteers yesterday that went well. Gayle continues to be in charge of the AA Assistance Line. Chad our new PI Chair has a great group of people on his committee.

Our Treatments Chair, John, has contacted several Treatment facilities- One that we had been bringing meetings to, stated they no longer needed AA to come in as they were going to try using "coaches"- which are people that have gone through their treatment center and come back to work with new clients. If they need us, they will call us.

We may have a new contact with Effective Living and of course contact with the new Assisted Living in Kimball. John continues to reach out to facilities and has an awesome committee to help him.

Corrections is off to a good start- Jim has been in touch with Stearns and Benton County jails as well as St. Cloud Reformatory. He has been in contact with Laura the Area 36 Corrections Temporary Contact Program Coordinator and Butch Area 35 Corrections to confirm who gets the information for any inmate release requests and how that process works.

At our February District meeting we talked about having 2 workshops a year and gave the GSR's a list of topics to choose from- Anonymity - Living our Traditions", "Problems other than Alcohol" (Singleness of Purpose), "How important is the GSR- really? ", "AA Guidelines - What are they and how to use them?", "Traditions- Why are they still important in today's AA", "12 Concepts? How to make sense of them?" "Unity – Practicing our Principles" or a Sharing Session on The Intergroup- How/why/what – Let's talk about it- We will see what topics they choose next month- stay tuned!

We assigned GSR's to committees so each Committee Chair has help, so no one does this alone. We set up a time for all Committees to meet at 6:00pm before our regularly scheduled 7:30 District meeting next month. We want to get us off to a good start in this rotation and stress the importance of regular monthly meetings for the Committees also.

I have also given our GSR's a "GSR Challenge" each month. First month I asked GSR's to find out who in their home groups do service work by bringing meetings into jails, prisons or treatment facilities and bring that information back to the next meeting and also include it in their GSR reports. February's challenge is to bring your Alt. GSR to the March District meeting. If they do not have an Alt GSR, see if they can find one.

Homemade cookies are provided at each District meeting- January's cookie was a fresh baked Monster Cookie and February's cookie was a chewy Oatmeal Scotchie. What will the March cookie be??? Show up and find out!

I will be attending the WCRAASC in Billings Montana and look forward to the new experience and learning a ton more about these Agenda Items.

Thank you for allowing me to serve! Denise R.

DISTRICT 18 – Janie F

No report, not present

ARCHIVIST – (looking to fill this position)

ARCHIVES – Peter T

Hello to everyone. I am an alcoholic; my name is Peter T and will be the Area 35 Archives Chair for 2020 rotation. I have been the District 13 Archives chair for the past rotation. And was on the archive committee with Steve D, past Archivist and Scott M , past Chair. I received the Archives Laptop at the December Area Committee Meeting and been busy trying to setup a system to Digitally Archive the Area 35 Archives. I am looking forward to the first Area Committee meeting. I am interested who might be on the Archives committee. The Archives Committee met February 23, 2020 at the Aitkin Alano Club. Present at the meeting were Diane R. from Hibbing, Katy P. District 16 DCM, Dave C. from District 16, Shelley H. District 12 DCM, and Myself. It was a pleasure meeting the new Archives Committee and getting to know them a little and share some things we can try to accomplish in this rotation.

I am asking all the District Secretaries (DCM pass this along please) to send the district meeting reports to archives@area35.org. I have setup a file to start to archive these meeting reports. I have downloaded the recorded meetings, assemblies and workshops Mike P. has on his drive. I would like to try and keep up with current events and slowly start going back into the boxes of data. The other big challenge is finding a more permanent home for the Area 35 Archives (as of right now they are in Jim S. shop. We need to find a climate-controlled storage of about 300-400 square feet. It would be nice to find something near the center of the Area so the Archivist and Archive Chair can access when necessary. So, I ask everyone who may know of a place or person we could contact PLEASE let me know.

I setup an Archives display at the 44th annual workshop in Grand Rapids. Not knowing what I had with or what I was doing this will be a constant work in progress,

Yours in Service, Peter T.

DISTRICT 16 – Katy P

Greetings from District 16, My name is Katy and I am an alcoholic. I am also DCM for District 16 in Grand Rapids.

We currently have 23 groups in our district. I have begun visiting the groups, and next month plan to start updating all information on groups.

We held our monthly district meeting on February 5, 2020. We have Pam M step up to take on the Grapevine/Lit Chair and Glenn M is our Treatment Chair, all positions are filled. Thank you to Pam and Glenn!

Our PI Chair Mary S is going to speak with county probation regarding allowing their clients to attend the Iron Range Get Together, May 1, 2, and 3 which will be held at the Eagles Club in Grand Rapids. I believe it is very important that they be allowed to attend. They are suggested to speak with their probation officers as well. Thank you, Mary.

Alternate DCM Dave C and Bruce M attended a District 8, 9 and 16 workshop meeting held in Hibbing on Feb 9 to discuss holding joint workshops involving the districts. We will be having more meetings to discuss. I feel this could be a wonderful idea since, and as always, one of the biggest obstacles we have in service work is getting and keeping people involved.

I will be getting copies of the Agenda and Hot Topic items for the Assembly as distributing to the groups and will be available to help answer questions they may have.

I attended the Area 35 Service Workshop last month along with several members of our district, and a few newcomers. Spending time with the newcomers and seeing their reaction to how big AA really is and how much they have to contribute is very inspiring to me. I look forward to continue to involve newcomers.

I will not be able to attend the WCRAASC next weekend and I very much regret it. I will be out of town.

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We have several events coming up in the next few months and I look forward to attending them.

Thank you. Yours in Unity and Service, Katy P.

DISTRICT 12 – Shelly H
No report

CORRECTIONS – Butch R

The Feb committee meeting was well attended with Districts 1,5,7,8,11,12,13 and 17 reporting. All Districts have been active in carrying meetings into State and County institutions. Dist 8 and 12 participate in meetings at Sandstone FCI and Duluth FCI. Temporary contacts have been given to those Districts that have individuals being released in the near future as well as Transition Fair dates for the upcoming year. More info on release dates and Transition Fair dates will be forwarded as they are received. Inside and Outside requests were made available. Sandstone FCI also have inside meetings available for those who wish to participate. As we are in conjunction with Area 36 I am looking forward to meeting up with their Coordinator in Billings Montana at the WCRAASC.

In Service, Butch. R.

DISTRICT 1 – Laura C

District 1 currently has 8 active meetings in our district. Halstad group is no longer active and Crookston Monday Night Group at Care-n-Share Center is now a Narcotics Anonymous group. We have 3 empty chairs at the district level. Our district meeting is held on the even months at Fertile Community Center at 2pm with 5 or 6 GSR’s or district chairs attending. All our bills are paid, and we have new positions filled for this rotation. There is a flier on the back table of our Spring Fling with AA speakers and workshops. There will be good food and fellowship. This is an open workshop so anyone can attend. The center is located on Hwy 32 in Fertile, Mn.

Yours in Service, Laura C.

DISTRICT 11 – Kurt N

District 11 Report
Greetings Area 35! We are up and running. Officers in place and functioning. PI/CPC activities are being planned and initiated. The Corrections Committee is active in a number of jails and prisons. We have volunteers for most of the AA meetings, but we still need a few more. A fall workshop on the Concepts is being planned. We could use some more donations to provide more of a cushion to make sure we are able to fund travel and committee activities- as well as more GSRs showing up at the District Meeting-I will be visiting meetings to those ends. Progress, Not Perfection!

Kurt N.

PUBLIC INFORMATION – Greg C

The CPC/PI action committee gathered for the new rotation at the Area Committee meeting on Feb 23rd in Aitkin. There were 13 individuals attending including Area CPC and PI Chairs along with representatives of 7 other districts. The meeting was Chaired by Area PI Chair Greg C and opened with introductions and a lively sharing session including areas of activity and concern in the Districts represented. Brian P Area CPC Chair suggested that at the next meeting, everyone report on what activities they engaged in since Feb. Greg then distributed an outline of 10 suggested areas of emphasis for each District to consider as we begin this rotation. In the spirit of unity, we are looking to establish what each district is CURRENTLY doing and set goals to develop some consistency across the Area. By combining our strengths and talents we hope to broaden our efforts in reaching the still suffering alcoholic while maintaining access to all AA materials and services to all its members and supporters. This really felt like a motivated and passionate group! I look forward to working with everyone to serve our fellowship!

Greg C.

DISTRICT 7 – Tim V

Greetings from District 7.

We have filled most chair positions, only corrections is open.

We meet on Thursdays at 7pm at the First Congregational Church, Brainerd. District 7 did a presentation at Service Workshop in Grand Rapids. Thanks Bob and Toni.

I am not able to attend WCRAASC, but Alt DCM and PI Chair will attend. Thanks Bob and Arden. I distributed Agenda Item and password at our Feb meeting. I attended the PI Committee meeting this morning. I attended a 12th Tradition workshop in District 5. Very good workshop.

The Area Chair will attend our District Meeting in March. I go through the agenda items and our Delegate will give his report to our District in May at our meeting.

Thank you, Tim V.

DISTRICT 6 – Mike U

Mike U was voted in as DCM. All chairs are filled. Talked about agenda items being presented at ACM. I will be attending the Billings conference with Renell.

We will be hosting a workshop March 21st on the agenda items to bring back to our groups along with District 11 and District 5.

GRAPEVINE – Pat M

Greetings Area 35,

We had 6 attend the ACM Meeting, from district 5,6,7. We went over how to go about ordering Grapevine materials. We are all getting to know each other. As the Area 35 Grapevine Chair, I would love to come to your district and present on what Grapevine is and how we can get the Grapevine magazines into the hands of all who suffer from alcoholism.

Yours in Service, Pat M.

DISTRICT 5 – Terry P
No report

DISTRICT 21 – John W
No report, not present

OLD BUSINESS
None

NEW BUSINESS

FOC Report-All Area monies are reconciled and accounted for. Justin is doing a great job. Christine G., Past Delegate

2020 Agenda Items: Jim has handed out all copies. Items are posted on area35.org, password is available from any Area officer. All agenda items will be discussed at WCRAASC in Billings, MT and voted on at Spring Assembly

Spring Assembly and Hotels: A second hotel in Hibbing, Rodeway Inn, has been added as Hibbing Park Hotel is full. Please see flier for additional hotel information. Rodeway Inn is located just 5 minutes down the road. Room block cut-off date is March 13th.

January Workshop Report: See Steve L., Alt Delegate’s, report

Annual Service Workshop Evaluations:

WCRAASC: Fliers are in the back. Conference was moved from original location to Big Horn Resort.

Northern Light Flier Procedure: If you want a flier inserted into the Northern Light please follow the procedure listed at area35.org or in the Northern Light. PLEASE GET PRIOR APPROVAL for all fliers from Northern Light Editor, Cindy S., before sending to the printer. Cindy will then give the printer approval to include your flier and Area 35 Treasurer, Justin W. will bill you.

Archives Software: Archives Chair, Peter T. has an area computer and needs additional software. He is serving as both Area Archivist and Archives Chair and lack of software is preventing him from doing his job properly.
Motion: To buy Archivist Microsoft Office 365. Motion was seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

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

Adjourned: The meeting closed at 1:34 with the Responsibility Statement.

Volume XXXIX Issue 2
March/April 2020

NORTHERN LIGHT
Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Created 1982
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UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

Service Events

April:

4th & 5th : Area 35 Spring Assembly
Hibbing Park Hotel and Suites
1402 E Howard St
Hibbing, MN

June:

14th : Area 35 Committee Meeting
Alano Club 9:00 am –2 pm
322 1st Ave NE
Aitkin, MN

August:

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

Fellowship Events

April:

17th– 19th: 75th Superior Round-Up
Superior Fair Grounds
4700 Tower Ave.
Superior, WI

April:

24th-25th: Way Out Group 8th Anniversary Celebration
Elk River Lutheran
729 Main St NW
Elk River, MN

May:

1st - 3rd: 50th Annual Iron Range Get Together
Grand Rapids Eagles
1776 S Pokegama Ave
Grand Rapids, MN

May:

18th: St. Cloud Round-Up
Moose Lodge
1300 3rd Street N
Waite Park, MN

May:

22nd– 24th: Gopher State Roundup
Double Tree Hilton Hotel Bloomington
Minneapolis South, 7800 Normandale Blvd.
Minneapolis, MN


July:

2nd– 5th: 2020 Int’l AA Convention

Detroit, MI

“Each group, as well as each individual, is a special entity, not quite like any other ... each group does have its own special atmosphere, its own peculiar state of development.”

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., January 1948, “Tradition Two,”, The Language of the Heart



Area 35
General Service Conference
Agenda Items Process

December 15th

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

February 15th

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

4th Sunday in February

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

Agenda
Deadline Dates

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

1st Weekend in March

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

1st Weekend in April

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

3rd Week in April

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

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
CONTACT

James S
Area 35 Panel 70 Delegate
delegate@area35.org

Greetings Area 35,

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

We realize that this time frame 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

50th Annual

Iron Range Get-Together

May 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 2020

The Courage to Change

Location: Grand Rapids Eagles

1776 S Pokegama Ave. • Grand Rapids, MN 55744

(218) 326-4845

"Tropical Shirt Night" JOIN IN.

Friday, May 1st

6:30 pm ... Registration Opens

8:00 pm ... AA Speaker: Ole B., Grand Forks, ND

Saturday, May 2nd

10:00 am ... Outstate Panel

1:00 pm ... AFG Speaker: Sharon B., Grand Forks, ND

3:00 pm ... Call-Up Meeting

7:00 pm ... AFG Speaker: Eloy M., Fort Collins, CO

8:00 pm ... AA Speaker: Bruce B., Duluth, MN

??? till 11:00 pm ... 7th Tradition Ice Cream Social

Sunday, May 3rd

8:00 am ... (Open) BB meeting

10:00 am ... AA Speaker: Steve S., Saint Joseph, MN

IRGT Pre-Registration Form

AA \$18.00 AFG \$18.00 Other \$18.00

Alateen \$6.00

Name _____

City/State/Zip _____

Group Name _____

IRGT Pre-Registration Form

AA \$18.00 AFG \$18.00 Other \$18.00

Alateen \$6.00

Name _____

City/State/Zip _____

Group Name _____

PLEASE POST ON BULLETIN BOARD

'Rocketed Into the Fourth Dimension'



GOPHER STATE ROUNDUP XLVII

May 22nd, 23rd & 24th, 2020



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

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

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

Guaranteed Special Room Rates
Register early for the best rate. Details at
www.gopherstateroundup.org
or directly with DoubleTree by Hilton at 800-222-8733.
Mention Gopher State Roundup for special rate.

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

SPEAKERS

FRIDAY, MAY 22nd
7:30 PM Georgia B., A.A. – Los Angeles, CA
10:00 PM Cliff G., A.A. – Oklahoma City, OK
SATURDAY, MAY 23rd
9:30 AM Rick J., Al-Anon – Ontario, Canada
11:30 AM Racy J., A.A. – New York City, NY (Service Speaker)
2:00 PM Lori G., Al-Anon – Oklahoma City, OK
4:00 PM Bill T. Detroit, MI (AA History Speaker)
7:30 PM Earl H., A.A. – Los Angeles, CA
10:00 PM Micki B., A.A. – Bryan, TX
SUNDAY, MAY 24th
10:00 AM Bill C. A.A. – Naples, FL
AGI-Interpretation is provided for the meetings listed above.
CDe are available in the Grand Ballroom foyer.

PRE-REGISTER

Please use a separate registration card for each registration

Full Name _____
Badge Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
☐ A.A. ☐ Al-Anon ☐ Alateen E-mail address _____

Make Checks Payable To:
GOPHER STATE ROUNDUP
PO BOX 390533
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55439-2026
☐ \$20.00 contribution
Additional contributions welcomed

PRE-REGISTER

Please use a separate registration card for each registration

Full Name _____
Badge Name _____
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☐ A.A. ☐ Al-Anon ☐ Alateen E-mail address _____

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GOPHER STATE ROUNDUP
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☐ \$20.00 contribution
Additional contributions welcomed



75th Superior Roundup

Serenity, Courage and Wisdom

April 17th, 18th, & 19th 2020

Superior Fairgrounds Curling Club
Superior, Wisconsin

Tickets \$20
*Under 1 year
Sobriety Free

FRIDAY EVENING

2:00 PM REGISTRATION OPENS
3:00 PM OPEN AA MEETING
6:45 PM ALANON SPKR – JENNY C. COHASSET MN
8:00 PM AA SPKR – KIM R. FREEDOM WISCONSIN
ICE CREAM SOCIAL TO FOLLOW

SATURDAY MORNING

8:00 AM REGISTRATION OPENS
8:30 AM YOGA Y12SR
10:30 AM MEDITATION WORKSHOP

SATURDAY AFTERNOON & EVENING

1:00 PM YOUNG IN SOBRIETY PANEL
2:30 PM ALANON WORKSHOP
4:00 PM AA OPEN MEETING
6:30 PM ALANON COUNT DOWN
6:45 PM ALANON SPKR – DEB L. OWATONNA MN
7:45 PM AA COUNT DOWN
8:00 PM AA SPKR – PATRICK M. OTTAWA ONTARIO
9:15 PM ICE CREAM SOCIAL
9:30 PM DANCE WITH DJ Z

SUNDAY MORNING

9:00 AM OPEN MEDITATION MEETING
10:30 AM AA SPEAKER – MICHAEL D. SIOUX FALLS SOUTH DAKOTA.

Please visit our website:
Superiorroundup.com

75th Superior Roundup Registration Form

Please mail checks to: Superior Roundup, PO Box 1287, Superior, WI 54880

Name: _____ AA _____ Alanon _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

ST. CLOUD ROUNDUP'S



Celebration
Of Recovery

SATURDAY

MAY 16, 2020

MOOSE LODGE

1300 3rd Street N Waite Park. Mn



7:00 PM SPEAKER

KATHY M. ALANON

ODEBOLT, IA

15 MINUTE BREAK

8:30 PM SPEAKER

KEN M. AA

ODEBOLT, IA

Ice Cream Social After
Speakers \$3.00

Pre-Registration and On-Line Tickets Must
Be Purchased By May 11, 2020
Speaker Tickets
Pre-Registration and On-Line \$10.00
At the Door \$13.00

Information:
320-296-1693
stcloudroundup@gmail.com

Make Checks Payable To SCR
Pre-Registration Must Be Purchased By May 11, 2020

Mail To: St Cloud Roundup
PO Box 125
St Cloud, Mn 56302

Pre-Registration Form

Copy as needed

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
EMAIL _____

On Line Pre-Registration
Now Available with
PayPal
www.stcloudroundup.org

PREDICTABLE

I have long held the belief that by going to lots of meetings, especially different meetings, I am sure to hear to something new. Or perhaps something old, said in a way that makes it new again. And I can honestly say that I am rarely disappointed. It happened again, just the other day, at a Step and Tradition meeting I often go to. We were reading and discussing the second step, which I'm sure I have done hundreds of times. My friend Bob was talking about how even though this was a familiar topic, just coming to this meeting today, it was predictable that his whole state of mind would improve by the time he left. Predictable. That word jumped out and hit me as if I had never heard it before! When it came my turn to speak, I talked a bit about the step and then thanked Bob for giving me a new light in which to view my program.

Predictable. I thought about it all day. It IS predictable that no matter what kind of day I'm having, going to a meeting always improves my attitude. And it is just as predictable that if I go a while without a meeting, I'm edgy and out of sorts. It's predictable that when I work with another alcoholic, I understand MY-SELF better. It's predictable that when I'm engaged in service work, I'm thinking less about me and more about my fellows. When I take the time to make conscious contact with God each day, it is predictable how He guides my thoughts and actions. When I hear of someone who was in the program but has drifted away from meetings; it is predictable what is likely to happen next. So, THIS recovering alcoholic will continue to show up... whenever, wherever I can. Because it is PREDICTABLE that I will be better for the experience. And it is PREDICTABLE I will hear something that I need to hear today. Thanks Bob.

Greg C.

“Never should we be lulled into complacent self-satisfaction by the wide acclaim and success that is everywhere ours. This is the subtle temptation which could stagnate us today, perchance disintegrate us tomorrow. We have always rallied to meet and transcend failure and crisis. Problems have been our stimulants. How well, though, shall we be able to meet the problems of success?”

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., July 1960, “AA Tomorrow,” The Language of the Heart

Acronyms

(VEGETABLE 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
- GSO - General Service Office
- GSC - General Service Conference
- GSR - General Service Representative
- GV- Grapevine
- GVR - Grapevine Representative
- ICYPAA - International Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous
- NL- Northern Light
- NMAA - Northern Minnesota Area Assembly
- PI - Public Information
- Panel - The Two Year Rotation a Delegate Serves (Ours is an Even # Starting with Panel 2 in 1952)
- WCRS - West Central Regional Service (Conference)
- WCRAASC - West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference (same as above)
- WCR - West Central Regional (Forum)
- WCRAAF - West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Forum (same as above)

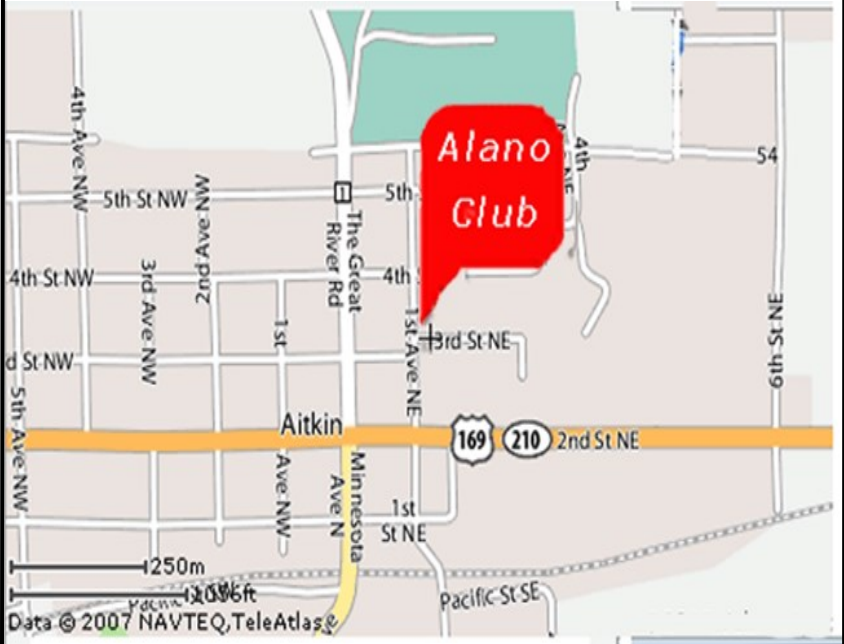
"Sponsorship is a bridge to trusting the human race, the very race we once resigned from. In learning to trust, we are strengthening our sobriety."

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

AREA 35
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Where is the Aitkin Alano Club?

Area 35 holds Committee Meetings in February, June, August and December at the Aitkin Alano Club
322 1st Ave. N.E.
Aitkin, MN.



2020 General Service Conference Committees
Agenda Items

I. Agenda

- A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2021 General Service Conference.
- B. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2021 General Service Conference.
- C. Review workshop topic ideas for the 2021 General Service Conference.
- D. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form, process and 2019 Evaluation Summary.
- E. Review the 2019 January conference call participant survey results.
- F. Discuss report on the Conference Agenda Process from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.
- G. Discuss the General Service Conference schedule.

II. Cooperation with the Professional Community

- A. Consider a request to discontinue the pamphlet "A.A. in Your Community."
- B. Consider a request to create a pamphlet for mental health professionals.
- C. Discuss progress report on LinkedIn page implementation.
- D. Review contents of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.

III. Corrections

- A. Review contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

IV. Finance

- A. Review the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix."
 - 1. Consider a request to revise the pie chart percentages on page 12.
 - 2. Consider a request regarding contribution percentages to service entities.
 - 3. Consider draft language related to the "virtual basket."
- B. Review Self-Support Packet.

V. Grapevine

- A. Consider the list of suggested AA Grapevine book topics for 2021 or later.
- B. Review progress report on AA Grapevine Workbook revisions.
- C. Review progress report on actions taken from the findings of the AA Grapevine Fellowship Feedback Survey.
- D. Consider revising the A.A. Preamble to use gender neutral pronouns. For example, "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other..."
- E. Consider a request to change the language of the first sentence of the A.A. Preamble as follows: "Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share..."
- F. Consider a request to develop an AA Grapevine pamphlet on how the AA Grapevine can be utilized to carry the A.A. message.
- G. Consider a request to change the name of the General Service Conference Committee on Grapevine to the Conference Committee on Grapevine and La Viña.
- H. Consider a request for AA Grapevine, Inc. to establish an Instagram account in line with the Twelve Traditions.

VI. Literature

- A. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated."
- B. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated."
- C. Review progress report regarding the development of the pamphlet on A.A.'s Three Legacies.
- D. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet "Too Young?"
- E. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet "Young People and A.A."
- F. Review progress report regarding the development of the pamphlet for Spanish speaking women in A.A.
- G. Review draft update of the video "Your General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure."
- H. Review draft language regarding safety and A.A. to be included in Living Sober and "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship."

- I. "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated" pamphlet:
 - 1. Discuss draft update of the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated."
 - 2. Consider not retiring the existing version of the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated."
- J. A.A.W.S. Policy:
 - 1. Review "A.A.W.S. Policy on Publication of Literature: Updating Pamphlets and Other A.A. Materials" approved in January 2020.
 - 2. Review proposed "A.A.W.S. Policy on Conversion of Written Conference approved Literature and Service Material into Video Format."
- K. Consider if proposed agenda items for plain language, simplified language, accessible translations and large print versions of the book Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as workbooks to help study the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, can be addressed with a common solution.
- L. Consider requests to revise the book Alcoholics Anonymous:
 - 1. Add pages 3 through 41 of the pamphlet "The A.A. Group" as an appendix in the next printing.
 - 2. Revise the first 164 pages.
- M. Consider proposals related to possible Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous:
 - 1. Develop a Fifth Edition.
 - 2. Develop a Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous with updated stories and revisions to Appendices III and V.
 - 3. Add a proposed addendum to a Fifth Edition foreword of the book Alcoholics Anonymous at the time it is published.
- N. Consider development of a draft Fourth Edition of the book Alcohólicos Anónimos.
- O. Consider updating the pamphlet "A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic."
- P. Consider requests to revise the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions:
 - 1. To remove the phrase "opposite sex" from paragraph two on page 117 in the chapter "Step Twelve."
 - 2. To reconsider use of the phrase "lustful enough to rape" in paragraph one on page 66 in the chapter "Step Six."
- Q. Consider request to add a subtitle to the booklet Living Sober.
- R. Consider requests to revise text related to open meetings in the pamphlet "The A.A. Group."
- S. Consider request to revise text related to self-support in the pamphlet "Frequently Asked Questions About A.A."
- T. Consider revising the pamphlet "Questions & Answers on Sponsorship":
 - 1. Change the suggestion that sponsor and newcomer be of the same sex.
 - 2. Expand the section on "Service Sponsorship" and retitle the pamphlet to include service sponsorship.
- U. Consider request to include a G.S.R. preamble in the pamphlet "G.S.R.: Your Group's Link to A.A. as a Whole."
- V. Review recovery literature matrix.

VII. Policy/Admissions

- A. Consider a proposed process for approving observers to the U.S./Canada General Service Conference.
- B. Consider implementing electronic voting for trustee elections.
- C. Review G.S.O. general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection.
- D. Consider continuing the review of dates for the General Service Conference with timing and year(s) to review as requested by the general manager.
- E. Consider a proposed process for how a Conference committee could review, discuss and act on proposed agenda items not forwarded to a Conference committee.
- F. Consider a proposed process for equitable distribution of Conference committees' workload.
- G. Review the Floor Action process.

VIII. Public Information

- A. Review 2019 annual reports from the trustees' Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org.
- B. Discuss a progress report on the A.A.W.S. Meeting Guide app.
- C. Review the 2019 trustees' Public Information Committee progress report on the usefulness and effectiveness of the A.A.W.S. YouTube account.
- D. Review the 2019 trustees' Public Information Committee progress report on the use of Google AdWords/Grants to carry the A.A. message.

2020 General Service Conference Committees
Agenda Items

- E. Discuss a request to adjust all A.A.W.S. video titles for search engine optimization (SEO).
- F. Review a report regarding the 2020 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
- G. Review a draft plan to create video shorts based on A.A. pamphlets.
- H. Public Service Announcements (PSAs):
 - 1. Review the 2019 Report on the “Relevance and Usefulness of Video Public Service Announcements.”
 - 2. Review the distribution and tracking information for the video PSA “Changes.”
 - 3. Review a report regarding the new financial reporting system for PSA media valuations.
 - 4. Review a progress report on the development of two PSAs.
- I. Discuss a request “to create a new form of communication” to address anonymity on social media.
- J. Consider a request to develop a plan to create an A.A. podcast.
- K. Review “A.A. Triennial Membership Survey” report.
- L. Review contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook.

IX. Report and Charter

- A. Discuss General Service Conference Final Report.
- B. Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S. and Western U.S.)
- C. Consider restoring the two paragraphs and the accompanying footnote in the Concept Eleven essay of The Twelve Concepts for World Service that were removed by an advisory action of the 66th General Service Conference.
- D. Consider amending a sentence in Article 4 of the current Conference Charter.
- E. The A.A. Service Manual, 2020-2022 Edition.
 - 1. Review the draft and the agenda items that were forwarded to Publishing during the period of the redesign project.

X. Treatment and Accessibilities

- A. Discuss the report on the review of materials related to Bridging the Gap activities.
- B. Consider request to develop a Bridging the Gap Workbook.
- C. Review progress report regarding the pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic.”
- D. Review contents of Treatment Committee Kit and Workbook.
- E. Review contents of Accessibilities Committee Kit and Workbook.

XI. Trustees

- A. Review resumes of candidates for:
 - 1. West Central Regional Trustee
 - 2. Western Canada Regional Trustee
- B. Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
- C. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
- D. Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.
- E. Consider the revised “Procedures for a Partial or Complete Reorganization of the General Service Board, the A.A.W.S. or AA Grapevine Boards.”

XII. Archives

- A. Consider requests to develop a book on A.A. history from 1955 through the present.
- B. Review Archives Workbook.

XIII. International Conventions/Regional Forums

- A. Discuss methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention.
- B. Discuss upcoming 2020 International Convention.
- C. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees

Why Do We Need a Conference?

The late Bernard B. Smith, nonalcoholic, then chairperson of the board of trustees, and one of the architects of the Conference structure, answered that question superbly in his opening talk at the 1954 meeting: “We may not need a General Service Conference to ensure our own recovery. We do need it to ensure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room. We need it to ensure the recovery of a child being born tonight, destined for alcoholism. We need it to provide, in keeping with our Twelfth Step, a permanent haven for all alcoholics who, in the ages ahead, can find in A.A. that rebirth that brought us back to life. “We need it because we, more than all others, are conscious of the devastating effect of the human urge for power and prestige which we must ensure can never invade A.A. We need it to ensure A.A. against government, while insulating it against anarchy; we need it to protect A.A. against disintegration while preventing overintegration. We need it so that Alcoholics Anonymous, and Alcoholics Anonymous alone, is the ultimate repository of its Twelve Steps, its Twelve Traditions, and all of its services. “We need it to ensure that changes within A.A. come only as a response to the needs and the wants of all A.A., and not of any few. We need it to ensure that the doors of the halls of A.A. never have locks on them, so that all people for all time who have an alcoholic problem may enter these halls unasked and feel welcome. We need it to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous never asks of anyone who needs us what his or her race is, what his or her creed is, what his or her social position is.”



Delegate –Jim S

Good Evening Everyone,

I am typing up my NL report while I am 6.5 miles off shore from Springsteel Resort for one last weekend of ice fishing on Lake of the Woods. I was so glad to see so many of you in Billings this past weekend. I hope you had as good of a time as I did. While I didn’t get to spend much time with as many of you as I would have liked to, I did try to eat meals with people I didn’t know well to create a few new friends.

My weekend started Thursday night with the West Central Regional meeting with our Regional Trustee, Regional Administrator, Delegates and some Alt Delegates. Next year’s WCRAASC will be in South Dakota in either Rapid City or Spearfish as it sounds right now. In two years, the Regional Forum will be in Missoula, Montana. It’s about an extra 3 hour drive past Billings. The meeting lasted about 2.5 hours. We discussed the creation of a Regional Administrator as a permanent position. Each Delegate has the opportunity to bring to the General Service Conference one recommendation to be decided upon at our Wednesday meeting. This would end up being a 4 year position to run alternately from the Trustee. We decided that so the incoming trustee would have an Administrator with two experience to aid in transitioning the new trustee and vice versa. We also discuss the url for the West Central web-site. We did decide on Westcentralregion.org to keep in line with our name for easy remembering.

Friday morning kicked off with a our past and present delegate meeting. Tom went through the points of discussion from the Thursday night meeting during the morning session. The afternoon session was a sharing session where past delegates gave us newbies some pointers on what to expect when we get to the conference. There were some great suggestions about preparing for the conference but my gut tells me the reality of this won’t hit until I step into the first room.

It was such a wonderful experience to be able to sit at the stage with such a great group of people. As some of you know I had my very first mistake when I went to read my Area highlight’s. At the conference each new delegate is given the opportunity or told to as well to read their Area highlights which can not be longer then two minutes, unlike this report I am writing. I introduced myself then I thought I wonder when the timer starts, so I turned to ask Tom and he laughed and replied, “It already has”. So I went into auctioneer mode and made it under the two minute bell. The rest of the evening involved a presentation and then we went into agenda items til around 10pm. Saturday was a big day. We had another presentation in the morning with some agenda items and then broke for lunch. The afternoon saw some breakout sessions which I would like to thank Heidi B and Melissa M for moderating the event and taking notes. This was much appreciated. Then we went into the agenda items for the rest of the afternoon. After dinner we heard a great speaker and ended the night with the last of the agenda items. Sunday morning we heard a wonderful good bye speech from Tom A, a good bye at least in terms of his involvement with West Central Regionals, he still has approximately 48 days left as trustee so get your mileage out of him while you can. One thing I would like to mention from his speech was him thanking his wife for helping to make his time as trustee manageable. It made me think about while I left for Billings early Thursday morning with just a bit of time to say goodbye to Melissa and not returning until Sunday night with also just a bit of time before she needed to get to sleep for work the next morning, she was at home, cleaning, taking care of the dog, going to work, doing laundry etc etc. So when I got home Sunday night I made sure to thank her for all she did while I was gone, but also thanking her for never asking me to not attend a function or a meeting of A.A. So since getting home I have made arrangements to meet with District 18 on March 14th, District 9 on the 15th, District 12 on the 19th and District 6 on the 21st. I still have spots available for those districts that would like me to come and if not I hope you take advantage of the other members of Area 35 who were there to share their experience with the agenda items. I am truly looking forward to these experiences as they will help me to practice what I have learned about the items and prepare me for the Spring Assembly which is just around the corner. I look forward to seeing you all there and walking out with a clear message of the voice you want me to carry for you at the conference.

In Service
Jim S. Area 35 Delegate

DCM District 11 - Kurt N

Reflections On Billings

I attended the 2020 West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference in Billings, Montana from February 28- March 1 and was encouraged to write a bit on the experience. I moved to Area 35 from Area 36, where I had served in a number of service positions and gotten to know many AA members-and a bunch of them were there in Billings along with a bunch from Area 35 that I am getting to know, having been newly entrusted as DCM in February, 2020. In looking around, I realized I knew or recognized so many people in the room from past Trustees to newly made friends in District 11 that I was filled with a profound sense of gratitude for how Alcoholics Anonymous has taken care of me over the years by putting these people in my life and, through them, given me information and “know how” useful to my service duties, inspiration, offers of help and friendship, encouragement, stories to cry to, laugh with, gain strength through. Examples of personal behav-

ior that stiffen my spine. Fellowship that tells me I am not at all alone in my struggles and that I have experience, strength and hope to share-indeed, MUST share-with others in order to stay sober and vibrant in my own recovery and life. This paragraph from the Big Book comes to mind: “Life will take on a new meaning. To watch others recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up about you, to have a host of friends-this is an experience you must not miss. We know you will not want to miss it. Frequent contact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives.” (Alcoholics Anonymous, page 89) In Eternal Gratitude,
Kurt

Treatment Chair- Melissa M

Greetings Area 35,

It is such an honor and privilege serving as the Area 35 Treatment Chair. I attended the West Central Regional A.A. Service Conference in Billings, Montana. I really enjoyed the information that was being presented for the agenda items and took some notes. If anyone is interested in them please let me know and I can email them to you. I was asked to be the secretary for a breakout session during the conference along with Heidi B. we had the topic “First Timers’ workshop-Focusing on A.A. Service Basics” which went well. I am going to be attending the Spring Assembly in Hibbing, MN and look forward to seeing everyone there. I am planning on reaching out to the Districts DCM’s to see who is serving as their treatment chair and connect with them. I look forward to connecting with districts and being of service.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Melissa M
Area 35 Treatment Chair

Group Records - Sally L

March 6, 2020
Greetings, Area 35.
In the last few weeks I have been busy processing changes. I also went to the WCRAASC in Billings to review the agenda items with people from the other areas in our region and with GSO staff. It was very interesting. On the way to and from Billings, we discussed the items to be better informed. At the conference, I met with two other registrars (during the ice cream social!) and we agreed to send a list of the things we would like to see enabled in the new My Portal database. That request was just sent today (March 6th). We hope to be able to provide more information to the groups and the DCMs. I will keep you posted.
In service,
Sally L
Area 35 Group Records Secretary

Secretary—Heidi B

Greetings Area 35,
We just returned from the WCRAASC in Billings, MT. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend! We met all of the 8 delegates from each area in our region and heard a brief report on what each is doing. Tom A. presented his Trustee Report. Nontrustee Director AAWS, Deborah K, gave a presentation on what is a Nontrustee Director, which was very helpful. We had three general sessions. I’ve listed notes from the presentations and sharing sessions below.
General Session 1 – Attraction through Action
How are we attractive? Be sober people. In our family, workplace and communities. Being a sponsor. Being a member of my homegroup. Having commitments – everyone in AA should have a job! If you push the broom, you’re the one that won. General service!
General Session 2 – Recovery - Who is missing in our Rooms?
Far too often, God is missing in the rooms of AA. God early in sobriety removed my obsession with drinking. That changed the focus of our meeting. We changed the focus of our meetings to God. Is God in our meetings? Is God in our Program or in the rooms with us?
We need to pay attention to that door and who is walking in, instead of our own stuff. What message am I carrying in the rooms of AA. We welcome anybody and everybody – but do they have a desire to stop drinking. We can’t be all things to all people, are we serving addicts well by not asking them that question. What would someone assume are the requirements of our group if they didn’t know the 3rd Tradition? What would someone assume about our group. How are we interacting with other people?
General Session 3 – Unity – Protecting our Principles
What have I found in Unity in AA? Reach out in unity. Learned by making mistakes. Do we know our Traditions and are they being talked about in meetings.
Breakout Session One for Area 35 “First Timers Workshop – Focusing on AA Service Basics.” - I had the privilege of moderating this sharing session with Melissa M taking notes. The attendees suggested topics and chose several to discuss, including what it means to take on a commitment, why do we receive the agenda items so late and is it appropriate for GSR’s to comment on agenda items. There were newcomers and some of us that have been in service for years.
Agenda Items – Here are some brief notes from the agenda item discussion. I have much more detailed notes, if anyone is interested. Please just send me an

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

email to secretary@area35.org.

Agenda – no discussion

CPC – Linked In, some still don’t see the benefit of this for the professionals.

Pros want more info online, they lack time for one on one meetings.

Corrections – no discussion

Finance – Don’t understand the reason for the pie charts. Might be helpful to discuss where the need is and contribute to them. Give to groups that aren’t contributing.

Grapevine - A lot of discussion with these agenda items – probably most discussed agenda item. Here is a sampling of what I heard.

D & E) Just say this is a fellowship that shares their experience strength and hope. How would this be offensive to transgender when they still identify as man or woman. Some groups have already made changes to this and no longer call it the AA Preamble. Teens don’t identify as men and women so it doesn’t apply to them. Our homegroup will probably change this for use in our group only. New York is already using “People.” AAWS Literature is gender specific. All of our literature needs to come in-line with non-binary people. It has nothing to do with me. It’s not all about you. I need to accept that some people are at a different place – gender identity. I may not understand it, I just need to accept that. I am absolutely opposed to changing the Big Book, this is not the Big Book. Just change to “AA is a fellowship who share...”

Grapevine owns the copyright of the Preamble. Grapevine Board thought it should have a discussion about this.

H) AA is doing its best to stay up to date with technology in the most effective way that we can. Keeping in mind the principles this program was founded on. Instagram is owned by Facebook. Some of this is authorizing FB to use our info. It’s a way to grab people’s attention. In favor of exploring the options. Alanon already has this. If we don’t do it, someone else will. We aren’t the future of AA. The future of AA is out there, on Instagram, not us.

Literature

D) Great that using QR code. Young people don’t look at paper. Are we using a format that young people are using. I am legally blind, this is my first time using QR code on my tablet. This can reach millions of people. Grateful to find out about it. The report was helpful to show how the message is getting out to young people.

K) Should this be in accessibilities instead of literature? Some of us have learning disabilities and need extra help. We can’t read the Big Book. We get to learn these things with our sponsor. We look up words. We learn to trust God in our program. Could this be considered a translation from the Big Book?

We have other translations in other languages. Who isn’t available to get to a person to help them out. Solitary confinement? Bootcamp? Detox? Do any of these places have others that can help them. We have ASL, braille, large print, etc. Will a different Big Book make us different from others in the groups.

CAN THIS BE ADDRESSED with a common solution – that is the question. This is worth discussing as 50% of people read at the 8th grade level. Could use both plain language translation and Big Book together. How much can we change the BB until we’re no longer inspired. Bill W said the book was “inspired.” The plain language translation was difficult to understand.

L) If it’s not broke, don’t fix it. The solution is the solution. It works. This is the end of the Bill and Bob era. New era, want to make a whole new version of AA. Some of the translations aren’t accurate. The Big Book is for the alcoholic, not the group. Would the revision of the first 164 pages be “FYE committee only” or open to the body? Most changes are FYEO. Tom never saw the 4th edition of the BB before it was published. Does this fall under article 12? No.

Policy/Admissions

E) In January board meeting, they went through the agenda items not forwarded to conference committee. What is the process of items not forwarded to the conference committee. Does this impede upon Concept 10. The committee looked at their items that didn’t get forwarded, we looked at them again. They were looking for more information, not necessarily rejecting them.

G) Something should be done about the floor action process. Floor actions are the worst actions we can perform. At end of conference, tired and no background information.

Public Information

C) I think we investigated it and it’s not working. We need to take a step back. It’s not reaching the audience that we thought it would. Like to go on effectiveness. What is the cost on this?

D) AdWords: Spent a good amount of time talking about in-kind services. New reporting, we kept exploring requests that were made.. AAWS was doing what they were asked to do. A number of issues came up. Trustees Finance was asked to review the information. How are in-kind contributions treated. \$10k in kind services. IRS - must report. We first must conform to our bylaws and Traditions. Within our control we execute policy in conformance within these. We can’t break the law, we must conform to the requirements. PSA’s \$20m worth of free time. Traditions 6 & 7, there is an issue. The PI policy – attraction not promotion. We go into competition with whomever with the keywords. “We feel better to let our friends recommend us.” In kind services, that means money on balance sheets. I think this violates Tradition 7. Feel this is affiliation. We are competing with treatment centers for placement of the same ad words. Montana has tagged words like alcoholism with their hotline and meeting schedules. It was free and done by members of AA. If we build our web presence with keywords, it builds as time goes by. Not so with Google AdWords. Money is running out. I think we need to stop this program and revert back to our PI policy. Rather than cost per click.

I) Cincinnati has radio show on AA. That’s a main artery for truckers that drive through. Do readings of Grapevine. Major show for AAs.

K) Questions for many years if survey was giving us accurate information. We wanted to make sure our methodology was right. Was supposed to move 2017. We want to make sure we are doing this correctly with the best technology available.

Report and Charter

B) A lot of discussion about needing directories anymore. Couple things that are important. The group is the most important, not the meeting. When we stop having directories, they will stop finding the groups. They can find a meeting, but not the group. Brooke sees great value in this. If the General Manager decides to discontinue this, do we get to review this?

Treatment

B) Have worked with Bridge the Gap, it’s not hard. Members go into facilities and do presentations for BTG. Not sure that needs a workbook. Bridging the Gap Chair, there was a lot of work that had to be done. A lot of trial and error so creating a workbook based on experience would be helpful. Excited about this, BTG Chair. A workbook would be helpful, to avoid mistakes. There are plenty materials to put together, already created. This may be the best way to grow AA! If a workbook helps, do it! Treatment workbook and Corrections workbook, there is information in these workbooks regarding BTG. I think we have it covered. Have been doing BTG workshops for years. Would be nice to have a guideline, not much out there.

Trustees - 7 candidates here. Info for committee only

Archives - No discussion

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS/REGIONAL FORUMS

A) The Lord’s Prayer – people are starting to speak up against doing this. Is exclusive to other religions. It breaks Tradition 10, unity and common welfare. This is international convention – respect all religions

B) All hotels are booked, waiting lists closed, no hotels within 120 miles.

Thank you for your allowing me to serve,

Heidi B, Area 35 Secretary

Alt Delegate-Steve L

Thank you for sending me to the WCRAASC out in Billings, MT. It was a long and intense weekend lasting four full days plus one hour. I left my house at 12:30am on Thursday morning and got home at 1:30am Monday morning. While at the WCRAASC, I was able to sit in the Delegates meetings Thursday night and the two on Friday before the conference started. Very informative. After a long day of presentations (all were fantastic) and going through Agenda Items, it was nice to wind down in the evenings. Friday night was an ice cream social with Montana’s past Delegates as the servers, they were wrapped up as if they were expecting a food fight. Saturday, I had the pleasure of playing cribbage with the alt-Delegate from Iowa and Iowa’s Secretary.

At the Delegate’s meeting it was voted to have a new Regional Administrator position for the WCRAASC. The Regional Administrator has many duties including minutes of meetings, archives, Treasure and Webmaster. The next person will be voted on at the GSC (general service conference). South Dakota is coming to a decision about where the WCRAASC 21 will meet Rapid City or Spearfish. The dates will be March 5th through the 7th and Missoula Montana will be hosting the Forum in 2021 Sept 10^h through the 12th. Finally, a question was brought up with “What happens with the International Conference with the potential widespread of the coronavirus?” There isn’t an definite answer on that yet, but it is being monitored closely.

I had a chance to talk with the next slate of Trustees and all will do the WCR proud.

I was fortunate to enjoy an hour and a half discussion/lecture with Carl B. Mostly on Article 5 in the charter and Page 275 in AA Comes of Age. Carl said something that struck me, which I wish to share. “Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern; and if I am selected to be one of those appointed people, that I am directly responsible TO those people I serve, not directly responsible FOR those people I serve.”

Here is a list of Agenda Items that brought much diverse discussion during the conference.

Grapevine: Items D & E there was a lot, a whole lot of discussion on this about gender neutral and changing or taking out “men and woman” out of the Preamble.

Grapevine: Item H: much discussion on GV presence in Instagram.

Literature: Items I, J, K Discussion was plentiful on all three items like adding a 5th grade reading level BB. Plain language BB who decides what plain language is?

Public Information: Much talk about YouTube and are Google grants and PSI’s are these “in kind donations?”

In Service

Steven L

Alt-Delegate

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.

AREA 35 REPORTS & JANUARY WORKSHOP SHARING SESSIONS

Area Chair—Gayle R

Greeting Area 35- We just finished up with the WCRAASC in Billings, Montana. I would like to really thank Cindy S-K and Rillis for allowing me to ride with. I enjoy sometimes riding instead of driving.. The Montana of- ficer who pulled up to meet us was very nice and handsome.. The speed limit is not as much as a suggestion there as here in Minnesota.. I am just thinking back in the day before GPS, how Rillis would have to have her paper map spread over the dash for us to follow along.. I would love to thank Rillis again for helping in the WebMaster roll as Mike was and is taking care of family matters. Our new WebMaster is Thomas K.. Thomas has some experience with our system as he helped design District 3’s webpage. Please introduce yourself to him and make him feel welcome to Area 35 when we meet at the Spring Assembly.. Area 35 was present at the West Central Regional Conference, Thank you for all who came, and who commented on agenda items.. Thank you Heidi and Melissa for helping with the Breakout Session.. I look forward to all those reports. I hope to have those breakout session reports at the Spring Assem- bly. I attended breakout session “ A Clear Vision for Singleness of Purpose” hosted by Area 24. The questions or topics we discussed as a group were. 1. Meeting formats that clearly define what meetings should be.. 2. Member of other 12 steps who just like to attend AA. 3. Working with treatment centers who treat those with multiple problems. 4. Change Preamble to say should suffer from alcoholism instead of just have a desire to stop drinking. And 5. Use of the pamphlet Problems Other of Alcohol.. We combined topics 2 and 3 since they were similar.. As we started discussing the Agenda items as a group I started to worry about we might have to be there for a few days, we spent an hour on just one item. We did get through all of them by 9:45pm Saturday evening. Some agenda items had huge supporters on both sides of the item and each side voiced their views. Someone said, do I have such a closed mind I can’t see someone else’s point of view. As your Chair, I feel and try to have a neutral position and not to voice Gayle’s opinion.. So as we go through these same agenda items I will try to share what the WCR’s feel of the topic was, if any at all. All of the presentations from Area’s were fantastic. Jim has to do a “this is Area 35” speech to practice for the GSC.. Jim must have visited past-delegate Jim K for speed reading lessons- as it was well done and very fast (under two minutes). The presentations were “Attraction Though Action” by Non Trus- tee Director from AAWS Deborah. Also “Recovery – Who is missing in our Rooms”, Area 63, “Unity – Protecting our Principals”, Area 76, “Service – Keeping A.A. Relevant, Area 41. During the final session, the past West Central Regional Trustee’s Carl B, Ken B, Andrew W, Dorothy, Chuck and our current Trustee Tom A. an- swered the Ask it Basket and had 19 questions that were not easy ones to answer and the Trustees did a great job answering and sharing from their experiences.. This was Tom A.’s final West Central Regional Conference as our current trustee. Tom gave thanks for allowing him to serve his own re- covery and also reminded us that the wives- his wife, Susie, also served by waiting at home or waiting in the back of the room for him as people show- ered him with thanks and congratulations. Tom said in his closing remarks today (March 1) Grapevines Quote of the Day “I have learned through crisis and through joy” and with that he said, “your home group is the heartbeat of AA and that’s where it starts, your home group sends blood to the arteries of the triangle.

Thank you for the privilege to serve- Gayle R

Northern Light Editor—Cindy S-K

I want to thank Area 35 for the opportunity to attend the WCRAASC in Billings Montana. First the weather cooperated there and back. The drive was easy this year as Rillis and I took turns driving on the way out as Gayle studied the agenda items and shared information from the back seat. During my time behind the wheel entering Montana this nice young state patrol officer stopped us to say hi and welcomed us to Big Sky country. The conference was filled with lively discussions on many of the GSC 2020 agenda items. I got to meet the Area 36 Pigeon editor Riki S. and the Area 40 Triange editor Catherine B. I left the conference ready to take on the responsibility of sharing the agen- da items to all who asked about my adventures out West. Service is good for sobriety, Cindy S-K

Ask and you shall receive. Thank you to all who submitted their thoughts and experi- ences while attending the WCRAASC.

FIRST TIME ATTENDEE TO WCRAASC

My experience of my journey out to Montana. It was a great spiritual experience that I will never forget. Getting asked to chair the early bird meeting Saturday morning was an honor. I want to thank my area and district for the opportunity to come out to Montana. Meeting all the people from different states was amazing. Thanks to all the speakers. What I liked best was the language of the heart. Responsibility statement said it all “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” May I always remember that the power in me is far greater than any fear before me. Thank you to all that were at the conference. Hope our paths will cross again. Jeffrey O GSR along with Uncle Mike, Tony, Renell and Shel- ley from Districts 6 ,11 & 12

Area 35 January Workshop DCM Sharing Session -January 25th

DCM’s from Districts 1,2,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13 and 16 were present with 2 Al- ternate DCM’s also in attendance for a total of 11 Districts represented. Past Delegate Kelly Dempksi started us off with a packet called DCM Orien- tation. Kelly reviewed the packet with us and gave us a lot of good infor- mation. A DCM had a question for Kelly- “ when visiting groups in our districts, how do we approach the groups and inform them of the district business?” Kelly suggested what she did was go early to speak with the chairperson before the start of the meeting and ask to have a few minutes at the beginning to intro- duce herself and explain what the District does. Also to bring pamphlets like Your DCM, G.S.R. General Service Representative and Self-Support Where Money and Spirituality Mix. Leave the pamphlets for the group to review. Another DCM talked about planning a workshop and committee meeting between District meetings without the GSR’s knowledge. It was stated that we really should be talking with the GSR’s and District members before making plans on workshops or other business. We should be getting the group conscience of the district before making plans. Kelly then left and turned it over to the DCM’s- Nels from District 8 volunteered to chair and Denise volunteered to be Secre- tary for the 2 year rotation. One DCM came with the question of - Why the workshop has the \$10.00 registration fee? That brought up more discussion like - We have spent a lot of time today talking about “how to get more people involved in service work” and then they come here to the Workshop and have to pay. Isn’t Self Support suppose to be a voluntary contribution? GSR’s get reimbursed from their groups, DCM’s get reimbursed from their Districts, but someone new who does not have a position and just wants to learn more about service would have to pay the \$10.00. We also noted that there was no mention of the registration fee on the initial flyer, it was only listed on the agenda. We felt that the registration fee be changed to a \$10.00 suggested contribution to possibly attract more new people to service. That was the only question we had time to discuss and was the end of the DCM Sharing Session.

Submitted by Denise R-DCM District 13

GSR Sharing Session-January 25th

- Issues:
- ★ Children at meetings
 - a. Providing daycare
 - b. Kid’s room
 - c. Pay older kids
 - d. Don’t take money from group
 - ★ How make AA more attractive
 - a. Presentation on this
 - ★ Disruptive people in meeting or people hijacking the meeting
 - a. Have two people take the person aside (not to embarrass)
 - b. Chair person take back control of meeting
 - c. Remind of keeping meeting on topic
 - d. Reminder of no cross talk
 - ★ What length do GSR’s go to help other groups? That was addressed that it pertains to each groups’ discretion

Submitted by Tony F GSR

NORTHERN LIGHT PRIMARY PURPOSE:

The Northern Light (N.L.), is a general service newsletter that serves Area 35 to facilitate bilateral communication between the Groups, Districts, Area and G.S.O. levels in the Northern Minnesota area. Its purpose is to:

- ◆ Publish an informative and attractive newsletter to the Area in a timely fashion.
- ◆ Encourage District reports and be available to work with Districts on communications. One or more of the N.L. Committee should try to attend area events to report on what’s happening in their areas. If they are unable to attend, encourage local members to write short articles about events and happenings to be published in the N.L.

- ◆ Provide encouragement for writing articles, particularly to D.C.M.s and Area Action Committee Chairs. This should include the strong encouragement to submit their reports for each issue, if no report is submitted it will be stated, example “Northern Light Report - NOT GIVEN” this is currently being done in the Southern Minnesota Area newsletter.
- ◆ Keep informed of activities and issues going on within Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. The N.L. Committee could subscribe the Grapevine or other pertinent A.A. news sources.
- ◆ Gather useful service information to publish from sources within the Area, Region and A.A. as a whole. Obtain, read and use other Area newsletters.
- ◆ Listen to comments from the Area on the content of the N.L.

EDITORIAL POSITION & N.L. COMMITTEE:

Editor - The Editorial Chair position is a two-year rotation picked by the incoming Area Chair and either approved or rejected by the Area Committee at the first Area meeting after the Fall Assembly Elections.

Desirable qualifications: Current knowledge MS Publisher, MS Word, MS Excel and other misc. computer programs as needed. The person should also consider the time needed to complete the task required. The candidate should have a working knowledge of A.A. as a whole, i.e., prior experience in service work such as G.S.R., D.C.M., or related position.

N.L. COMMITTEE - The N.L. Committee consists of two D.C.M.s in Area 35. Currently, these have been picked randomly at the start of the new rotation. They also serve on a two-year rotation basis. They assist the editor in communications with other area newsletters, in recommendations on general improvements, and with general problems and implementations of new policies. They may also represent the editor at functions when the editor is unable to attend. Seek advice and help from former N.L. Committee members and editors.

N.L. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

The Committee meets every other month, before the start of the Area Workshop and at Spring and Fall Assemblies. Additional meetings may be called for if needed between these times.

NORTHERN LIGHT SUBMISSIONS:

General submissions to the *Northern Light* are very welcome! Feel free to send letters or articles that are pertinent to Alcoholics Anonymous. However, please note that if space is limited, first priority will be given to reports from Area Officers, Area Standing Committee Chairs and D.C.M.s from Area 35.

Submissions are preferred electronically using a Word or WordPad document to the Area’s newsletter e-mail address: northernlight@area35.org. Most other file formats can also be accepted. You may also send articles or letters to my postal address, listed on page 2. The deadline for each Issue is printed on the front page.

Letters to the Editor or opinion articles should have a title. They also **can not be anonymous**. Please include the first name, last initial and name of the city where the author is from. If you have any questions regarding submitting an item for the *Northern Light*, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you!

Northern Light Editor,
Steven L.

Directions for Inserting a Flier into the Northern Light

1. First & Foremost **Contact the Northern Light Editor** at northernlight@area35.org or call the phone number listed on page 3 of the hard copy, print version of the Northern Light, for the Northern Light Editor (remember this will change every 2 year rotation).
2. Email a pdf version of your flier to northernlight@area35.org for approval. Upon approval a copy will be forwarded to the webmaster to be placed on the Area 35 websites calendar of events.

3. Upon approval mail to :

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

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

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

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

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

NMAA

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 20 are as Follows:

- ◆ January 13th : Flier will be included in the January/February Issue
- ◆ March 6th : Flier will be included in the March/April Issue
- ◆ May 1st : Flier will be included in the May/June Issue
- ◆ July 8th : Flier will be included in the July/August Issue
- ◆ September 1rd : Flier will be included in the September/October Issue

OUR PAST DELEGATES

| | | | | |
|---|------------------|--|------------------|--|
| Panel 68 Christine G | 2018-2019 | Scott J | (deceased) | |
| Panel 66 Kelly D | 2016-2017 | Panel 36 Louie H | 1986-1987 | Panel 10 Bob Bergum (deceased) |
| Panel 64 Michael “Jake” J | 2014-2015 | Panel 34 Bob Picard (deceased) | 1984-1985 | Panel 8 Pearl Nikkinen (deceased) |
| Panel 62 Jim K | 2012-2013 | Panel 32 Tom L | 1982-1983 | Panel 6 Waldo Hall (deceased) |
| Panel 60 Jon C | 2010-2011 | Panel 30 Don Mellen (deceased) | 1981-1982 | Panel 4 Wendell Haben (deceased) |
| Panel 58 JoAnne M N | 2008-2009 | Panel 28 Garfield (Duffy) Salvog (deceased) | 1978-1979 | Panel 2 Arthur Robertson (deceased) |
| Panel 56 Jerry S | 2006-2007 | Panel 26 Vern Radtke (deceased) | 1976-1977 | |
| Panel 54 Charlie C | 2004-2005 | Panel 24 Gordon B. Hagen (deceased) | 1974-1975 | |
| Panel 52 Tim C | 2002-2003 | Panel 22 Frank P. Juola (deceased) | 1972-1973 | |
| Panel 50 Tom A | 2000-2001 | Panel 20 Clarence Berg (deceased) | 1970-1971 | |
| Panel 48 Susie A | 1998-1999 | Panel 18 Dave Harvey (deceased) | 1968-1969 | |
| Panel 46 Bill Perrizo (deceased) | 1996-1997 | Panel 16 Arno Adams (deceased) | 1966-1967 | |
| Panel 44 Bruce B | 1994-1995 | Panel 14 Donald Formo (deceased) | 1964-1965 | |
| Panel 42 Greg Gits (deceased) | 1992-1993 | Panel 12 Donna Thomson | 1962-1963 | |
| Panel 40 Bob J | 1990-1991 | | | |
| Panel 38 | 1988-1989 | | | |

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

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| <p>Though the high point is the Conference meeting, the delegate’s job goes on year-round and involves all aspects of the Conference structure. The delegate should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Attend the Conference meeting in April, fully prepared. Immediately upon election, every delegate is put on the G.S.O. mailing list to receive Conference materials.Communicate the actions of the Conference to area committee members and encourage them to pass on this information, and the delegate’s enthusiasm, to groups and to intergroups/central offices. If an area is too large for the delegate to cover in person, he or she will ask area officers and committee members to share the load.Be prepared to attend all area, state/provincial, and regional service meetings and assemblies. From these meetings, delegates come to better understand their own areas and can make suggestions for the Conference agenda. Here, too, they come in contact with A.A. members who might not be reached otherwise.Help area committees obtain financial support for the area and G.S.O.Provide leadership in solving local problems involving the A.A. Traditions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Remind G.S.R.s to inform groups and individuals about the A.A. Grapevine and Conference-approved literature.Cooperate with G.S.O. in obtaining information—for example, making sure that up-to-date information reaches G.S.O. in time to meet the deadline for each Issue of the A.A. directory and helping carry out the triennial membership surveys.Visit groups and districts in the area whenever possible.Work closely with committee members and officers, sharing experience throughout the year. After G.S.R.s and committee members have reported on the Conference, learn from these A.A.s how groups and members have reacted.Assume added responsibility if the area chair and alternate chair are unable to serve. Or, if an area committee is not functioning effectively, the delegate may take an active role in remedying the situation.Keep the alternate delegate fully informed and active, so that the alternate can replace the delegate in an emergency.Late in the second term, work with newly elected delegates to pass along a basic knowledge of Conference proceedings and problems. <p>(from The A.A. Service Manual, pages S44-S45)</p> |
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| March/April 2020 | | Page 19 | |
| NORTHERN LIGHT | | | |
| Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly | | | |
| I 2 Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous (Long Form) | | I 2 Concepts for World Service (Short Form) | |
| <div>1. Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.</div> <div>2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.</div> <div>3. Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.</div> <div>4. With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.</div> <div>5. Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose—that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.</div> <div>6. Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A.—and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one.</div> <div>7. The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.</div> <div>8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those services for which we may otherwise have to engage non-alcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. "12 Step" work is never to be paid for.</div> <div>9. Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our over-all public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.</div> <div>10. No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues—particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.</div> <div>11. Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.</div> <div>12. And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.</div> | | <div>I. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.</div> <div>II. The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.</div> <div>III. To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.”</div> <div>IV. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in a reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.</div> <div>V. Throughout our structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.</div> <div>VI. The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.</div> <div>VII. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.</div> <div>VIII. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.</div> <div>IX. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.</div> <div>X. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.</div> <div>XI. The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.</div> <div>XII. The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.</div> | |
| AREA 35 EVENTS | | | |
| INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE | | | |
| <div>◆ Area Chair calls to cancel and/or re-schedule.</div> <div>◆ Based on DOT report, national weather service, individual safety being paramount</div> <div>◆ Chair asks for weather reports from all DCM’s from respective districts either by email or phone for those that don’t have computers.</div> <div>◆ Chair notifies the Alano Society in Aitkin on food preparations and possible re-schedule to following Sunday.</div> <div>◆ Chair contacts webmaster results put on Area 35.org and reschedule date and time.</div> <div>◆ Districts contact their DCM in inclement weather for updates on cancellation.</div> <div>◆ Post procedure in Northern Light.</div> <div>◆ Chair remains available and in close contact as he or she is the focal point and main contact; he or she must make the decision, and be available for calls.</div> | | | |

Area 35 Spring Assembly
April 4th & 5th, 2020
Hibbing Park Hotels & Suites, Hibbing, MN

AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m. Registration
- 10:00 a.m. GSR Orientation & Action
- Chair Committee Meetings
- 11:30 a.m. **Lunch** - on your own
- 1:00 p.m. Assembly Convenes**
- Call to Order- Open with the Serenity Prayer
- Why We Need a Conference
- Recognize Past Delegates
- Recognize GSRs
- Add to Agenda
- Approve 2019 Fall Assembly Minutes
- GSC Agenda Item Sharing Session I**
- Agenda
- Cooperation With the Professional Community
- Corrections
- Finance
- Grapevine
- 2:30 p.m. Break**
- Literature
- Policy and Admissions
- Public Information
- Report and Charter
- Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities
- 4:50 p.m. BREAK**
- 5:00 p.m.
- GSR Sharing Session
- DCM Sharing Session
- Area Officers and Area Chairs Meet
- Closed AA meeting
- 6:00 P.M. Dinner** – on your own
- 7:30 P.M. GSC Agenda Item Sharing Session II**
- Trustees
- Archives
- International Conventions/Regional Forums

SUNDAY

- 7:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. Big Book Meeting
- 9:00 a.m. Assembly Reconvenes
- GSR Sharing Session Report
- DCM Sharing Session Report

OFFICER REPORTS

- Delegate – Jim S
- Alternate Delegate – Steve L
- Chair – Gayle R

- Secretary – Heidi B
- Treasurer – Justin W
- COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS**
- CPC – Brian P
- District 9 – Ricco R
- District 4 – Colleen S
- WEBMASTER - Thomas H
- LITERATURE – Bruce M
- District 14 -
- District 3 – Tom O
- NORTHERN LIGHT – Cindy S-K
- District 8 – Nels P
- GROUP RECORDS – Sally L
- District 2 – Daniel W
- District 15 – Stephanie S
- TREATMENT – Melissa M
- District 13 – Denise R
- District 18 – Janie F
- ARCHIVIST –
- ARCHIVES – Peter T
- District 16 – Katy P
- District 12 – Shelley H
- CORRECTIONS – Butch R
- District 1 – Laura C
- District 11 – Kurt N
- PUBLIC INFORMATION – Greg C
- District 7 – Tim V
- District 6 – Mike U
- GRAPEVINE – Pat M
- District 5 – Terry P
- District 21 – John W

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- June ACM
- Fall Assembly
- Calendar of Events
- Ask It Basket (Past Delegates)
- Adjourn

Mail Area 35 Group contributions to: **NMAA**
7633 15th Avenue NE
Rice, MN 56367