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January 4th, 2021

This is **YOUR** Newsletter Area 35

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

**Let us mail this newsletter directly to you or your group
- send name and address to
grouprecords@area35.org.**

**Send articles and comments for publication to Cindy S-K
northernlight@area35.org**

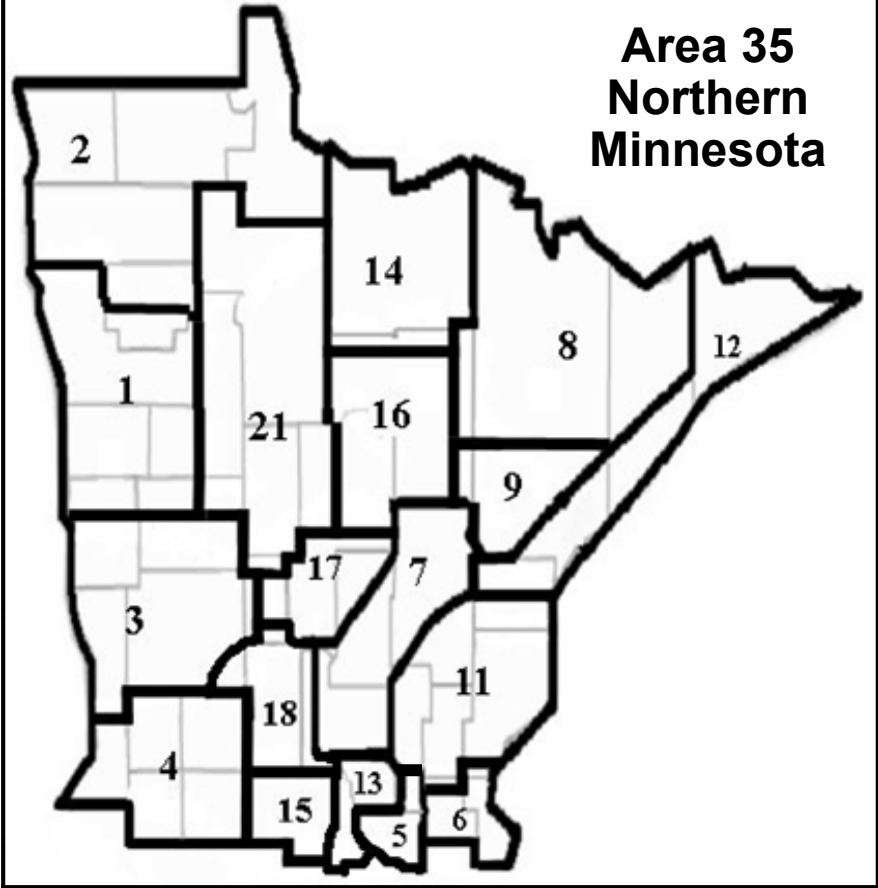
Don't forget to visit and bookmark your Area 35 web site! - <http://area35.org>

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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, Halma, Middle River, 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, New London, Paynesville, Richmond, Sartell, St. Joseph, St. Stephen, Sauk Centre, Watkins

Zone III

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

Zone IV

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

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

District Meeting Location Information

- District 1**
2nd Sunday of Even Months, 2:00 p.m.
Fertile Community Center
101 S Mill St, Fertile, MN 56540
- District 2**
1st Sunday of Odd Months, 3:00 p.m.
Thief River Falls Alano Club
614 Davis Ave
Thief River Falls, MN 56701
- District 3**
3rd Sunday of Month, 10:00 a.m.
Alano Club
827 Summit Avenue
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
- District 4**
3rd Saturday of Month, 5:30 p.m.
Contact DCM for location (It Rotates)
Potluck at 6:30 p.m.
Round Robin at 7:00 p.m.
- District 5**
3rd Monday of Month, 7 p.m.
(use side door that opens to parking lot)
Trinity Lutheran Church
111 N 6th Ave
Princeton, MN 55371
- District 6**
3rd Thursday of Month, 7:00 p.m.
Spring Lake Lutheran Church
8440 Erickson Rd NE
North Branch, MN 55056

- District 7**
3rd Thursday of Month, 7:00 p.m.
First Congregational United Church
415 Juniper Street
Brainerd, MN 56401
- District 8**
Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m.
General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Contact DCM for location “It Rotates”
- District 9**
Last Sunday of Month, 6:00 p.m.
Hibbing Alano Club
3725 1st Avenue
Hibbing, MN 55746
- District 11**
1st Tuesday of Month, 7:00 p.m.
Peace Lutheran
2177 Hwy 18
Finlayson, MN 55735
- District 12**
3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30 p.m.
1100 E Superior Street
Duluth, MN
Handicap Accessible,
- District 13**
1st Monday of Month, 7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
St. Cloud Alano Club
127 7th Ave NE
Saint Cloud, MN 56301

- District 14**
3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30pm
Coffee Landing
444 3rd Street
International Falls, MN 56649
- District 15**
1st Monday of Month, 8:00 p.m.
Albany Community Center
741 Lake Ave
Albany, MN 56307
- District 16**
1st Wednesday of Month, 6:30 p.m.
United Methodist Church
1701 SE 5th Ave
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Handicap Accessible, Non-Smoking
- District 17**
Not currently active or unknown
- District 18**
1st Tuesday of Month, 6:00 p.m.
Long Prairie Alano Club
21 2nd Ave
Long Prairie, MN 56347
- District 21**
2nd Monday of Month, 7:00 p.m.
Bemidji Alano Club
3802 Greenleaf Ave NW
Bemidji, MN 56601

AREA OFFICERS & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS

Area 35 Fall Assembly Minutes
Meeting via Zoom
October 3, 2020

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

Recognition of Past Area 35 Delegates in Attendance: JoAnne N. – panel 58, Jim K. – panel 64, Kelly D. – panel 66 and Scott A. Area 36 – panel 57 & 59.

Additions to the Agenda:

Approval of the 2019 Fall Assembly Minutes: Motion made and seconded to approve minutes. Minutes were approved.

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – Jim S.

Good Morning Everyone, I would like to thank all the DCM’s that held a delegate’s report either in person or in zoom. It was truly a pleasure getting to meet people I had not met before and to see old faces I already knew. The hospitality was great, the attendances were great, and the conversation was great. I have asked Gayle to switch my delegate’s report and the Grapevine presentation tonight so for those that have heard my report I won’t be offended if you go find something else to do besides sitting through another hour of my report. We don’t want to take away from the other report in the event mine goes over and hour.

On August 15th I sat in a zoom meeting with my fellow delegate’s and the staff from GSO and heard a financial report from our CFO Leslie Backus. She did a great job and that report has been emailed out to DCM’s so if you are a GSR and have not seen that report please talk to your DCM. If you are a DCM and have not received that report from me, please come find me at the break and let’s make sure I have your correct email information. In this report we were told that when the pandemic started 7th Tradition donations dropped 50% and literature sales dropped 75%. Since then, we have seen an uptick in 7th Tradition donations but this hasn’t bridged the gap yet. I did talk to Cindy about putting this in the NL and got a call from Steve L. who asked me about this. He said, do you realize this report is 20 some pages long and I said I had no idea. I sat in the meeting for 2.5 hours and we went through the whole report but didn’t pay any attention to how long it was. Thus, it was not included in the NL.

The next zoom meeting I had was a Strategic Planning Meeting with my fellow delegate’s and GSO staff. There was a questionnaire sent out with specific questions about how to move forward with GSO. There were 3 different zoom sessions with 1/3 of the delegate’s in each session. We were broken into 8 delegates and 1 moderator. One topic that came up was how to better utilize our Class A trustees in getting the message out to the professionals about what AA is and what AA isn’t. Another move that GSO made was to offer early retirement to staff. In our last West Central regional meeting, Mike Lewis, our regional trustee said there was the expectation that 25% of the people offered early retirement would take it, it turns out that about 80% of the people are taking it. There are no immediate plans for filling those positions with new people, but to combine duties as best as can be expected. When that complete information is all compiled, I will get you a copy of that report.

The next zoom meeting I attended was Friday night with my agenda committee. The main focus of that meeting was how to improve upon the conference. There are 8 of us in the committee but there was only 3 due to scheduling conflicts. The topic of our conversation was looking at moving committee meetings during the conference held on Monday and Tuesday to zoom meetings to give the conference that much more time to address agenda items.

I received a letter that was sent out by Greg T. our GSO manager. I have included that letter below....

In Service, Jim S.

*October 2, 2020

Dear friends and trusted servants,

I am writing to inform you that the General Service Board has authorized a drawdown of \$1.5 million from the Reserve Fund by A.A. World Services, Inc. to cover cash flow requirements in the 4th quarter of 2020.

Note: This will put the Reserve Fund balance at approximately \$13.1 million, which reflects a level of approximately 7.8 months of office operating expenses. (The Reserve Fund calculation is based on recent actual operating expenses.) Evaluating the finances and cash flow, even with the continued increase in Seventh Tradition contributions, we still expect a decrease in income from last year of more than \$2 million, which creates this immediate cash flow pressure.

Previously, in May, A.A.W.S. drew down \$3 million to address the sudden emergency situation related to the severe drop in revenue we saw in March and April. Also, over the summer we refunded nearly \$4 million for 2020 International Convention registrations.

Note: We received \$972,000 as an advance against our International Convention insurance claim to recover lost income, and we expect the balance of the claim to be paid out very soon.

Since May—through September—the groups have responded with breathtaking generosity in their Seventh Tradition contributions, which have ensured continuation of services to the Fellowship. For six months (March through August), our publishing revenue was well below budgeted levels, but September saw a positive uptick in literature sales. Not a trend yet, but very encouraging. We have cut expenses in as many key areas as possible, without affecting quality of literature production or delivery of services.

The office presented a reforecast 2020 budget to the Board in August, and we are constantly updating and reporting financial results to the trusted servants with fiduciary responsibility for the operating corporation. We have begun work on the 2021 operating budget, with three quarters of 2020 actual results now available. And, at the direction of the Board, we wanted to share this latest information with you.

Sincerely yours, in service to A.A., G. Gregory T./General Manager

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – Steve L.

Good Morning Ladies And Gentlemen, It was wonderful to see (kinda) all the GSRs in attendance at the GSR orientation session. I miss being live with you guys. I miss the side conversations and dinners which really help getting to know you better. But this is the way it has to be.

I recently attended a Zoom meeting for Alt Delegates Thursday Oct 1. There were about fifty-five in attendance from Alaska to Texas and Hawaii to New York and about half of the Canadian Areas. Quite interesting. It was decided to have these meetings on the first of every month and to pass this on to our replacements. One of the interesting threads was how Areas were having their Area Meetings by Zoom. A few were going to have their election Assemblies by Zoom. No one was talking about holding live Area meetings. I also hear how different Areas are and some of their challenges they face. Like geographic size both large and small, Population size and linguistic differences. Zoom

I’m reevaluating the 2021 workshops venue. I want to see how this Assembly goes. I’ve seen some neat graphic things done with presentations over zoom. To possibly just have a Zoom workshop. It would be nice for the zoom members to fill out an evaluation. We can still have our main guests give their presentations long distance. And save on costs. The topic of the 2021 workshop will be “A.A. in a Time of Change”. The Saturday night speaker will be Ken B., past WCR Trustee from Nebraska. Racy J., who runs the PI desk at GSO, will give a presentation by Zoom on Saturday if everything goes right. Steven L.

AREA CHAIR – Gayle R.

Greetings Area 35, I pray you are staying well. Thank you for being here whether in person or on Zoom. I am grateful we have this option when being face to face is not an option for some. We are working out the bugs in the zoom meetings up and running for each committee. I apologize to Literature and Grapevine, they couldn’t get theirs going until I started it. Setting up today’s meeting was a group effort, whether you had a computer to use, set up a zoom meeting on your own account or was the techy person a huge thank you to each one of you. Denise R, DCM district 13 and her district has done a wonderful job hosting us, thank you District 13.

If any GSR on zoom today or even here wants an electronic version of the Orientation packet, I can email it to you, email me or text me.

I attended District 18’s District meeting, District 18 is in service. Their past DCM has some health issues and the new DCM is just that new. She is slowing learning and getting sick just now doesn’t help. I pray for her quick recovery.

I have not looked for a site for the next fall assembly, that will be my next priority. Along with 2022 Spring and Fall Assembly. I’ll also work on a calendar of events for 2021 to be ready by the December Area Committee Meeting. I am wondering if we all could write a summary of our positions this year and submit to the Northern Light and to Peter in Archives. What can we do, what can’t we do and what did we have to change. For me the big one is the Zoom thing. It is an honor and a privilege to be of service to area 35, Gayle R.

SECRETARY – Heidi B.

Greetings Area 35, I’m sorry that I’m not able to attend in person. It’s wonderful to see everyone, even if it’s online. I’m grateful that we have options like Zoom for those of us that are unable to attend. Thank you, Gayle and everyone else, for making this work.

My homegroup is still meeting via Zoom and I continue to host a women’s meeting each Friday at noon via Zoom. I am really enjoying the opportunity to attend Zoom meetings in other parts of the state. If your group is meeting via Zoom, please send me your info as I would love to pop into your meeting.

DCM’s, thank you for continuing to send your district minutes to me! I enjoy reading about what everyone is doing in their districts. Please send me your reports for the meeting minutes, which will also be published in the next issue of the Northern Light. Reports are due Sunday, October 11. I would also love to receive a copy of the notes from the GSR & DCM Sharing Session to add to the minutes. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service, Heidi B.

TREASURER – Justin W.

Greetings Friends. I'm extremely happy to be here and grateful to be a part of general service in any capacity. Life circumstances haven't exactly been favorable but adjusting myself to life's terms is working much better than old ideas did...just exactly like you all said it would. I had the pleasure of losing the hard drive in my computer, the same hard drive that had the Area Financial Database. My last backup was from July, so I did spend a few days this week re-entering information, but it got done and we are back in business. I have since changed the backup settings so that the file is backed up every time I close the program.

We saw group contributions increase this period by more than 30% which is encouraging. Our bottom line this period was a little over \$2000 in the positive. We have already paid \$1050 towards this assembly and I think we're going to be just fine.

That said, I received letter from group with a contribution check they sent. In the letter the person apologized for making a smaller contribution to the area and stated that his groups' conscience had decided to send a larger portion of their available funds to GSO because of the current financial condition there. I thought that his group had done just exactly what we ought to do when deciding how to contribute and left him a voicemail message along these lines. It's important to realize that GSO has continuing expenses that can't be minimized as quickly and efficiently as they can within the fellowship and I'm grateful to be a part of a home group that takes this into consideration before making contributions to the entities.

Justin

COMMITTEE CHAIR & DCM REPORTS**CPC – Brian P.**

Attending: Mike Dist 6, Arden Dist 7, Chad Dist 13, Phyllis Dist 4, Mike Dist 6, Kathy Dist 4, Ricco Dist 9, Jack Dist 9, Brian Area 35, Greg Area 35.

Mike Dist 6 had questions approaching Radio and TV.

Arden – Revisited the website and whether they wanted a new site from scratch vs restoring the old site. (may be in a HTML language) vs Word Press

Chad Dist 13. Meeting lists and flyers in the district, working on verifying meetings and Zoom meetings.

Ricco Dist 9 .Working with Dist 4 and Greg on getting a website. Greg did a Zoom meeting with Dist 9 on the importance and benefits of a District Website. Jack also with Dist 9 said there are about 15 meetings in person. They are trying to emphasize the precautions that need to be followed.

Kathy Dist 4. Visited Social Service offices with literature and website information. Dist 4 has done a great job with their website. They have added AlAnon meetings along with the AA meetings. Getting Big Books to the library and the Bookmobile. Also, their website has a link to the e-big book on the GSO website. Greg C. -PI Chair and Kathy from Dist 4 gave a great explanation of their website, what it is linked to. How it has helped them and their district reach out to newcomers. Yours in service, Brian P.

DISTRICT 9 – Ricco R.

We had a GSR Service Workshop Committee meeting on 8/23 and 9/13 to give progress reports on the upcoming workshop on 9/19/2020.

We had the workshop on 9/19 and it was a highly informative on a variety of issues pertaining to Alcoholics Anonymous. Sandy K. from District 9 was the Chair for the workshop and kept things moving in an orderly and friendly atmosphere. Phillis K. and Tom T. from District 9 each gave a talk on how the 12 steps have affected their lives and made their lives as the Big Book says, Happy, Joyous and Free. Katy P. And Dave C. from District 16 gave a talk on the 12 Traditions and how they are the glue that gives us Unity and Anonymity in our AA program. Dan H. District 16 gave his personal AA talk including service and sponsorship in the AA program. We had excellent attendance of 26 in person and 10 people on zoom for a total of 36 people attending. So, all in all it was a rip-roaring success for Alcoholics Anonymous.

We had a follow-up meeting of the workshop at 7:00 pm, 9/27/2020, to discuss things we can do the same, different or better and when we will plan the next workshop we will be doing. The meeting went well, and our next workshop will be in February 2021. It is a pleasure to be working with District 16 to plan the joint workshops. It feels like unity in action.

Diane and I attended the Area 36 District 1 workshop on zoom. Some highlights were: making AA accessible to everyone, the tour of their Area 36 Archives Facility, and a brief AA Big Book history talk.

Greg C., Area 35 Public Information Chair, and Steve L, Area 35 Alternate Delegate attended our last District 9 meeting on 9/27. Thank you to them for showing up and participating in our meeting with a boatload of service work information.

In Unity and Service, Ricco

DISTRICT 4 – Colleen S.

Greetings Area 35. We continue to conduct monthly district meetings in person and via Zoom for those that prefer not to attend in person. While the number of people who attend the meetings is down compared to pre-Covid-19, most of our attendance is in person. The district has decided to resume our monthly Round Robin District/Speaker Meetings this month on October 17th. The District Meeting will begin at 5:00pm, followed by a potluck dinner (will have servers to serve the food), and the Speaker meeting at 7:00pm. The Sunday Night 6:30 12X12 meeting will be hosting.

Kathy H., our PI Chair, has continued to expand our District 4 website. The District Meeting Agendas and Minutes are posted online along with District Committees, District Officers, GSRs and Donation information. The website also lists meeting information, events, along with links to additional resources.

The PI Chair has also distributed 720 brochures, a combination of "This is AA" and Is AA for you?" to Social Service agencies in the district. As a district, we have decided to add a Committee Chair position. It will be the District 4 AA Helpline Chair, and this position will be voted in at our next election in January 2021. We will also be voting on a new DCM and PI Chairperson.

The Treatment and Corrections Chairs continue to report that as the pandemic continues, we have not been able to resume any connection to the treatment or correctional facilities. They will continue to stay in touch with the contacts for each facility.

Within District 4, 21 AA meetings have resumed in person meetings at their original locations. Several other meetings are meeting in person, but outside, either in parking lots or at individual members homes. As we continue to navigate this unique environment, I am encouraged by the resourcefulness of our members to continue to carry the message to the alcoholic that still suffers.

Yours in service, Colleen S.

WEBMASTER – Thomas H.

The last few months have seen a decrease in requests to change meeting info as these to go group records. The meetings changing from in person to Zoom seems to have leveled off.

I purchased and set up the new laptop for the Northern Light Editor. This laptop was given to her today.

I've updated the website with a few fliers but there are obviously not many AA events happening compared to normal times.

The domains and hosting were renewed for area35.org and AA Minnesota.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve, Thomas H.

LITERATURE – Bruce M. (no report)**DISTRICT 14 –****DISTRICT 3 – Tom O'M.**

District 3 has been meeting outside the last four months at city park in Detroit Lakes. We are moving back inside to Detroit lakes Alano Club this month. We meet every third Sunday of the month at 10 a.m. There was a GSR who reported problems donating to Area's site with online donation, from St. Mary's of the Lakes group when he clicked was not able to donate. Our district has been going through changes. I received an email this morning that our website is live again www.dist3aaonline.org the website link had been down it is updated now. Very many changes to our meeting list. We have about four to six GSR's showing up to district.

Gene M, Alternate DCM

NORTHERN LIGHT – Cindy S-K

Thank you Thomas for the new laptop. Denise R. District 12 DCM submitted an article for the last issue I somehow missed. I apologize for the oversight and look for it in the Nov/ Dec issue. I want to thank everyone that took the time to submit their thoughts from the fellowship. Please keep them coming. I put a challenge out to all at the last committee meeting to get five names and addresses of people who would like to receive the Northern Light in the mail. Gayle/Sally informed me that 200 additional people are now added to the mailing list! Do you have a sponsor that needs to read it? Let's keep the momentum going! What would you like to see in the newsletter?

Please submit what's going on between the area meeting and the deadline of the next newsletter. The work does continue.

I know times are different but we must move forward to make things happen. What are you doing to help the person who is still suffering?

DISTRICT 8 – Nels P.

Hello everyone, District 8 has had some meetings returning to in-person meetings. We have been trying our best to keep people updated with a list that we have been sharing via email so groups can have them on hand in case anyone isn't tech savvy and struggles to find in person meetings or if they prefer ZOOM. Those are listed as well. We still have our phone line active and we are doing our best to continue to help the newcomer as well as anyone else in need. We hold our district meetings via ZOOM but attendance has been very limited. We will hold our district meeting on October 7th at 7pm via zoom and I will share the information from the assembly with everyone at that time and also send a report via email to the district.

Yours in service, Nels P.

GROUP RECORDS – Sally L.

Greetings, Area 35, I have been receiving weekly reports of Groups by Area and District, Group Contacts, and Service Positions from GSO. I used the Service Positions report to expand the Northern Light mailing list. A lot of the names on the list were people who previously held service positions and may not have current positions.

I will send the reports I receive from GSO to the DCMs monthly. I can send them more frequently if requested.

Many groups are going back to in-person meetings. Some are doing only Zoom, and some groups are doing both.

I received a notice from the Records department stating that GSO will remain closed until 2021. The office has gone virtual with the majority of employees working remotely. There may be delays in responding to inquiries. They will strive to reply within 20 business days.

There has been no word on when the ERP database will be online. The records department sent out a survey to all Area registrars requesting feedback on what we would like to see in the database. One of the things I asked for was that all the meeting types (women's, GLBT, open, closed, etc.) that are available on aaMinnesota.org be available in the database. This would allow for direct upload of the database to aaMinnesota.org and require no manual changes to our state website.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Sally L

DISTRICT 2 – Danny W.

District 2 held its last District meeting September 13, 2020 at the Twin Rivers clubhouse in Thief River Falls, MN.

Attendees: Besides the DCM there were 4 other attendee's – 1 GSR, an Alternate GSR, and 2 other TRFs AA members.

District business consisted of reviewing the July meeting minutes, verbally, and a verbal treasurer's report since the District Treasurer was not able to attend. The DCM gave a report providing highlights from the August Area Committee's Zoom meeting.

Group Reports were presented by attendees who attend the different meetings. With Covid-19 still lingering around it was reported that some groups are still not meeting in person. Those groups that are meeting seem to still have a significant decline in attendance. However, it is hoped that given time attendance will pick back up.

The DCM will send out an email requesting a response as to which meetings are meeting, which groups are not meeting, and if there are any changes needed for group records. There has been no response back from anyone as of yet. We discussed the possibility of having a meeting at our local correctional center in TRFs, but the center remains closed to outsiders coming in for meetings. But literature has been provided at the center's entry. We also discussed the possibility of providing literature at other locations throughout the District, as well, AA meeting ads are being run on some of the local TV stations.

In service, Danny W.

DISTRICT 15 – Lori L.

My name is Lori and I am the DCM for District 15. I have only been DCM for my district for 3 months now, and I have alot to learn. I am excited about that.

At our September District meeting at the Albany Senior Center, Jim S., came and shared the Delegates Report with us. We had a good discussion afterward. 10 District members attended.

In our District, we are still looking for a Secretary. We do have a Grapevine representative, which we did not have before. We are financially stable. I have been trying to attend all of the meetings in my District. There are 30 different meetings. So far, I have attended 13 of them. Progress, not perfection. Hopefully, I will get to all of them. The meetings I have attended in my District are going well. Spirits may be dampened a bit because of Covid 19, but the love, gratefulness and acceptance of all alcoholics remains strong. We really have friendly and welcoming meetings.

I am grateful to Alcoholics Anonymous, my sponsor and my district that I can stand here today to give our district report. This program has turned a frightened, insecure woman into someone that I am OK with today. It began in my home group where a persistent member gave me courage to find my voice and speak what was on my mind. Thank you, God, for my home group. It gives me the security that I needed. Then I found a sponsor who taught me about my Big Book, how to find answers for tough questions in my Big Book and how to forgive myself for mistakes. Thank you, God, for sending her into my life. She helps me and supports me in doing my Service Work. My District had faith in me to elect me to my DCM position in July. I was humbled because my group's members have an abundance of knowledge and experience about the AA program. And they chose me. I hope that I don't let them down. Thank you, God, for placing knowledgeable members in my District to teach me.

Yours in Service, Lori L.

TREATMENT – Melissa A-M.

Greetings Area 35, I hope that everyone is doing well and staying healthy. It feels so good meeting in person; I sure have missed my people.

This morning at our breakout session we had 4 people in attendance 5 including myself, with District's 8, 13, and 6 being represented. We had some really great discussions about different ways that we can help the still suffering alcoholic in treatment centers within Area 35.

District 13- shared that their treatment chair Jon has been staying in contact with as many treatment centers as possible via telephone, to see if there are any services that District 13 can help with. Unfortunately, they are struggling getting treatment centers to be willing to do via Zoom speaker meetings and or having A.A. members come share their experience strength and hope. Jon stated that they are starting a new A.A. meeting at the East Haven Half Way house, which will be an in person meeting The meeting is on Sundays' at 6:30pm, their first meeting will be tomorrow October 4th. Jon is looking for A.A. members who are willing to help with this meeting. This meeting is for current clients at the half way house along with past clients who graduated from the program. Jon also stated that he is staying in contact with Centracare to hopefully work something out with their treatment centers.

District 6- shared that they have not been having any luck getting into treatment centers and or having Zoom meetings at their treatment centers. District 6 had a great idea of if we could have A.A. members record their story and could send it via email to the treatment centers that we are able to stay in contact with. That way we are able to carry the message into treatment centers without breaking traditions and the treatment center can utilize the speakers at a time frame that works for them since A.A. members are not allowed to go into treatment centers.

District 8- shared that they have been working on keeping a tally of their meeting's, which meetings are open and which meetings are doing zoom and which meetings that are implementing both in person and via Zoom. That way they are able to send that information to the treatment centers so that they are aware of what meetings clients are able to attend in person and or via zoom.

District 15- Recovery Network in Paynesville is looking for face-to-face speakers and or Zoom speakers for Friday night's at 7pm.

I have been in contact with the Area 36 Delegate and the Area 36 Chair to see what they have been doing in regards to the Treatment Centers in Southern MN. I was informed that their Treatment Chair has stepped down. They both told me that they have maybe 6 treatment centers that are allowing Area 36 to have speakers via Zoom.

Our Goals:

*We discussed the importance of emailing the treatment centers we are in contact with the Bridging the Gap information via email, having them fill it out and emailing it back to the treatment chairs.

*Checking with treatment center to see if they will be open to having Audio speaker meetings if they are not open to Zoom or having people come in person.

*Implementing and learning from the TIAA that is offered on the GSO website, which was suggested by District 8.

*I am going to be emailing and or calling other Delegates and or Treatment Chairs from within our region to see if they have any other suggestions that we could try implementing.

*We are having a Treatment Committee Breakout Session Scheduled Via Zoom for November 1st, 2020, to check in and see if there is any more information that we have come across.

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

DISTRICT 13 – Denise R.

Welcome everyone and thank you for allowing us to host the Assembly here in our District. It has been a privilege. I have had many people step up to volunteer their time and I am so appreciative to them all. Thank you!

Our District meetings continue to meet in a hybrid form of in person and on zoom. Last month we had 10 attend in person and 4 on zoom for a total of 14. We had 1 new GSR and 1 new attendee that wants to assist on the Treatments Committee. So we are slowly increasing our numbers again at our District Meeting.

Our Treatment's Chair John, has made several inquiries and was able to start a new meeting at one of our Men's halfway houses. It will be an in-person meeting and the first meeting will take place this Sunday.

We continue to update Sally with meeting changes so the Meeting Guide App and AAmnnesota.org can be as accurate as possible. Meeting statuses are still changing for us and because of that we are discussing if we should print our usual district meeting cards this year. To be discussed more.

Our GSR's voted to have a workshop on Anonymity-Living our Traditions.

Alt DCM Peggy has led a group of people including Melissa and Pat from District 15 to help host this workshop. It will be November 21st from 1:00pm-4:00pm and will be held at the St. Cloud Alano Club as well as Zoom. We will have flyers with the Zoom information available and also post it on the Area 35 Website. I am excited as we will be listening to Bill W. himself speak on the Traditions and then discuss them individually. We hope you can all make it!

Alcoholics Anonymous is alive and well in District 13. Thank you for allowing me to serve. Denise R.

DISTRICT 18 – Janie F. (no report)**ARCHIVIST –****ARCHIVES – Peter T.**

Hi my name is Peter and I am an alcoholic. This is going to be a short report because not a lot has been happening with the archives since the August, Zoom Area 35 Archives Committee Meeting.

I would like to apologize to those trying to join the Archives meeting with Zoom. I did not realize that when the computer was worked the zoom drivers were gone and the meeting would not launch. Update zoom, now it works. The in-person meeting at The Fall Assembly had in attendance Katy P. and Dave C. District 16. Jarrin V. District 5. We all shared a little about how our district and home groups are dealing with the covid-19 situation. How we are having in person and Zoom meetings or a combination of the two. In August we had a Zoom Area 35 Committee meeting, the report was published in the Sept/Oct. issue of the Northern Light. The Archives Committee will try and revive the question and answer section of the Northern Light. The Archive Committee will have a monthly meeting. I thank the Archive committee for being patient with me as I learn what I am doing.

Due to having my wife's mother and brother-in-law die in the same week in September and my Aunt last week, all other issues got put on hold and we can start getting our lives back to normal routine. Also, there was a problem with the Archives computer that it would not save any document for more than a week and they would disappear. I had my tech. person reinstall all the programs and test to make sure it saved the information (so far, so good) been downloading the information I had on my personal computer, still looking for files. It did not save any of the scanned information so we will have to start over scanning.

I would like to remind all DCM's to send me monthly meetings of any Archive materials.

I am still learning the ins and outs of the Area 35 Archives computer, but I have many great friends in the AA community that will provide me with the education needed to do the best service I can.

Yours in Service, Peter T.

DISTRICT 16 – Katy P.

Hello from District 16. Things are going fairly well in District 16 considering the challenges we are all facing. We have several meetings happening on zoom, and quite a few churches and other places opening up for meetings with requirements (masks, social distancing, cleaning). Our PI/CPC Mary has been doing a wonderful job keeping the meeting schedule updated with changes, zoom numbers and contact information. Thank you, Mary!

We held a joint workshop with District 9 on September 19, 2020 in person at Triumphant Life Church in Grand Rapids, and also on zoom. We had 26 in attendance and 12 on zoom. District 9 gave 2 presentations on the 12 Steps and how they've changed our lives. District 16 gave 2 presentations on the Traditions. Dan H. came in and spoke of his experience in AA. We learned a few things about having workshops on zoom, which will help us going forward. We met with District 9 on zoom and are planning another joint workshop in February. One of the topics we're looking at is how to write stories for the Grapevine, etc. There were a few doubts in the beginning about doing the joint workshops, but we had such a great turnout - even with new comers - that we believe it can be a very useful tool to reaching out.

Our prudent reserve is good, our contributions have been down but, as others have said, our spending is also down. Our next District meeting will be October 7, at 6:30 pm at the United Methodist Church in Grand Rapids, and on zoom. It is good to finally be able to attend the Assembly in person and is good to see everyone! Thank you for allowing me to serve. In Service, Katy P.

DISTRICT 12 – Shelly H. (no report)

CORRECTIONS – Butch R.
We met via Zoom for a meeting, five Districts took part and shared. For the most part there have been no meetings with outside attendance but all are keeping in contact with the facilities as to see when things will change. As said before Thistledeew in Togo has been closed but there is a remote possibility to reopen in the future. Willow River is the other. I have contacts and will inform the Fellowship when and what Facilities are allowing to once again participate. Others are doing the same and we hope that things will change in the near future. In Service, Butch R

DISTRICT 1 – Laura C.
Not much has been happening in District 1 until recently when several groups have started up again. Erskine Tuesday Night was the only meeting that continued to meet all year with 3 – 8 attending. They moved to the basement so they could social distance. Shooting Star group still can’t meet but the Waubun Friday night has 3 – 6 attending has no open speaker meetings yet. Erskine Tuesday Night was the only group that continued to meet all year with 3 – 8 attending and practicing social distancing. Twin Valley Tuesday Night started up again with 3 – 5 attending. Ada met a couple times outside and are now meeting via group call but are back at the Ada Event Center with 8 – 14 attending. Fosston Thursday night took a few months off but are back at the Kingo Church with 7 – 12. All Roundups were cancelled in our district and our district meetings were cancelled since April but will meet next Sunday at the Fertile Community Center at 2pm. We are financially stable. Yours in Service, Laura C.

DISTRICT 11 – Kurt N.
Greetings and Well Wishes to Area 35! We have been having regular, in-person District Meetings for several months now with 8 attending-4 or 5 GSRs. Finances have held steady due to fewer expenditures. Group contributions are now resuming to some degree after a period of almost none. We are putting together a more formal, written District financial policy as a consistent guideline for how we conduct our financial affairs. We are purchasing literature for distribution for groups, taking advantage of lower prices. In Corrections, Pine County Jail has resumed weekly AA meetings, using an internet video service. MSOP Moose Lake has resumed in person AA meetings, though in smaller numbers per meeting. Screening is required before the volunteer goes in. Rush City would LIKE to resume AA in the form of speaker CDs through their media channels that every inmate has access to, but there are bureaucratic hurdles to overcome. Face to face AA meetings are opening back up and numbers are steadily increasing. Most Zoom type meetings remain but may be somewhat smaller due to face to face meetings opening up again. There is concern about getting more GSRs to represent meetings, especially in view of disruptions caused by COVID-19. Yours, In Service, Kurt N.

PUBLIC INFORMATION – Greg C.

See CPC for combined report.

DISTRICT 7 – Tim V. (no report)

DISTRICT 6 – Mike U.
Greetings Everyone. Our Dist held its regular monthly meeting held third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. Our CPC Chair shared that he has been in contact with some of the professionals in the community and that they wanted literature to be able to hand out. Our Literature Chair has been busy mailing out literature to group. Also Corrections Chair has contacted the Director of Jails to see about doing a video meetings, director was not interested at this time. Treatment chair nothing to report, our finance is looking better over all our district is doing well I have been visiting groups in the Dist and there are a few groups still meeting outside and some are not sure where they are going to meet if they can’t get back at their regular place. Have been staying in touch. In service, Mike U.

GRAPEVINE – Pat M.
Greetings to all, Area 35 Grapevine Chair Pat M. I sit here four days late in getting my report in to the Area 35 Secretary Heidi. Why? I could come up with a hundred different excuses but the real thing is I'm frustrated. I attended the fall assembly, we had three in attendance. We had trouble with zoom. There was some people trying to get on line and when we finally got it up and running they were gone. So, what's going on in Grapevine. I really don't know what's going on in the districts. In Area 35, I reached out to the Grapevine Chair and I sometimes get a response, more times not. Saddens my heart. I believe I have 10 more districts to visit. I will be in contact with your DCM’S and I hope I get to visit all your districts. I will continue to reach out to the Grapevine Chairs of the districts. Covid 19 has changed a lot of ways and how we have done traditional AA. I always need to remember what it took to get me to what it was like, what happened and how it is now.

That brings me to Grapevine literature. We have a lot of great literature for the still suffering alcoholic, such as AA in the Military. Many stories of recovered alcoholics in our veteran - people who fought for our freedom so we can have AA meetings. The list goes on, such as Voices of Women in the Alcoholics Anonymous emotional sobriety. Best of the Grapevine: three individual books getting back to 1944 until our present time with some of the best stories of the Grapevine magazine, which is international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous. The Grapevine magazine has the ability to carry the message to so many who suffer from this the disease of alcoholism, which includes all who suffer from alcoholism such as the families of an alcoholic. But not if we don't work together. I know all districts do not have a Grapevine Chair but the ones that do let's see if we can't work together and carry this message together. Your Area 35 Grapevine Chair thank you for allowing me to serve, Pat M.

DISTRICT 5 – Terry P. (no report)

DISTRICT 21 – John W. (no report)

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS
2021 Budgets: Motion made and passed to accept the 2021 Budget as revised. Workshop Registration Fees: Do we want to continue registration fee for Workshops? We are self-supporting, expenses aren’t in budget which is why we charge the fee. Regional Trustee is usually brought in as a speaker, costs involved. Motion made and passed to keep \$15 registration fee for Area Workshop. **GSR Sharing Session Report:**
DCM Sharing Session Report: We had 5 attending on Zoom and 8 in person. Quite a bit of talk about starting Websites for our districts and what does that look like? Following District 4’s example, some discussion is how it is maintained? We can start the Website in our rotation, who will continue the work next rotation? Do we need a new position- Webmaster/Technology Chair at the Districts? One DCM asking about what can we do when meetings seem “closed” to Newcomers because of meetings temporarily meeting in garages? Is it okay for DCM’s to list the meetings as going “dark.” Groups should have the say, not the DCM’s - More discussion on AA meetings and Tradition 4, Group Autonomy. Concept 12 was Quoted. Meeting closed at 6:00pm Submitted by, Denise R. DCM-District 13

Area Officer Sharing Session Report: There is no room to add additional expenses (i.e. expenses when speaking at districts, etc) on the Area spreadsheets. The width of the spreadsheet can’t be changed due to space in Northern Light, but individual columns or rows can be edited to reflect necessary expenses. December ACM: The December Area Committee Meeting on Dec 6, 2020 will take place via Zoom. Motion made and passed to include and allow for GSR’s to vote for the Trustee-at-Large at the Dec Area Committee Meeting 2020, which will be held via Zoom, to temporarily suspend the committee meeting and open an assembly meeting for this process. **Trustee-at-Large candidates are asked to submit resumes/information to Cindy for publication in the Northern Light BEFORE November 2. All GSR’s interested in voting must be ready to vote via Zoom at 10:30am sharp on Sunday, Dec 6. **Calendar of Events:** Sun, Dec 6, 2020 – 9:00am Area Committee Meeting via Zoom Jan 16 – 17, 2021 – Area Workshop, St. Cloud

“We can, through broken anonymity, resume our old and disastrous pursuit of personal power and prestige, public honors, and money -- the same implacable urges that when frustrated once caused us to drink; the same forces that are today ripping the globe apart at its seams.”

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

Since the Area 35 Committee meeting the work continues...

Howdy Ladies and Gentlemen,

Well, I made a decision. Due to the uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Area January workshop will be a Zoom meeting. I canceled the Venue at the Holiday Inn in St. Cloud, so if you have booked a hotel room there call now and **CANCEL YOUR ROOM**. I've shortened the workshop to an eight hour one day event, starting at 9am and finishing by 5pm.

Six Districts: 3,4,8,9,10 and 12 have agreed to give presentations. Ken B., a past West Central Regional Trustee from Nebraska, will give a presentation in the afternoon session and then tell his story to end the workshop. Racy J., the PI Coordinator from the General Service Office, will also give a presentation in the afternoon session on PI, GSO and Covid-19. We will finish the day with an Ice Cream Social, bring your own ice cream 🍦 and we will keep the zoom channel open for people to chat and socialize 😊.

The workshop is January 16, 2021, starting at 9am with **NO Registration fee this time.**
The zoom meeting information:

Zoom ID Number: 432 323 0944 Password: Area35

There is a flier included in this issue of the Northern Light. Please take it to your Groups. By the time you receive this issue I will have emailed a pdf flier to all the DCMs to print or forward to the GSRs. The Flier with the Zoom information and workshop agenda will also be posted on our WEB site Area35.org.

I need your help in spreading the word of the workshop's Zoom ID and password so please pass this information on to the Fellowship

To those of who do not know how to Zoom.

1. Zoom is free unless you are hosting a meeting.
2. Down load the Zoom app/program for your device by either going to the Zoom Web site to down load the computer program or go to the Apple/Google app store to down load the app.
3. Install the program/app
4. Open the program/app and press join meeting
5. Type in the Zoom ID number.
6. A new screen appears then enter the password
7. Follow the prompts, do you want to use the internet mic? (usually yes). Do you want video to show your face for the meeting? (usually yes). There is a camera and mic icon to press to turn on/off the video and sound. They are either on the bottom of the screen or top left of the screen.

If my directions seem confusing, ask your children, spouse or a friend for help in setting up and using Zoom. Good Luck.
See you at the workshop.

In service,
Steven L.
Area 35 Alt-Delegate

Morning Everyone,

The past month for me has been a quiet one for me. Our regional Trustee was at a board weekend this past week so we should be having a zoom meeting about that in the next couple weeks for me to report on at the DEC ACM. I am hoping you all have received the digital version of Box 459 that I emailed out the other day. In it you will see the our General Manger is stepping down this next Feb so we are on the lookout for another GM. In the letter you will find the qualifications required for this position. If you are interested in pursuing this please let me know so I can find out what needs to be done from here to get your name tossed in the ring. I was hoping to be able to have a resume for the Trustee at Large candidate to put in here for us to vote on in DEC but I have not received it yet. I have followed up with the candidate since the Fall Assembly but have not had any response from them at this point. I will get it out to the fellowship as soon as I receive it.

While this report is short due to a quiet month, you can expect everything is going to kick into high gear shortly as agenda items are due by Dec 15th and they will be out before you know.

In Service,
Jim S., Area 35 Del

Greetings Area 35,

I hope that everyone is staying safe and healthy. It was really nice attending the Fall Assembly and seeing people in person. I want to thank the Area Officers for all the hard work they did in order for us to have the Fall Assembly, both in person and via Zoom.

Since the Fall Assembly I do not have much news as to many changes that have occurred throughout the treatment centers, but we as a treatment committee are not giving up and are going to continue to try carrying the message back into treatment centers. I am excited to be of service on November 21st, 2020 from 1-4pm at the St. Cloud Alano Club for the Traditions Workshop. Area 35 Treatment Chair I want to thank District 13 PI Committee for asking me to be of service. I hope that everyone remains healthy and continues to trust the process of this crazy pandemic.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Melissa A-M.

In District 11 we continue to conduct our monthly GSR meeting with about 6 attendees. Meetings continue to open up. Some require masks, while others elect to have them as optional. Discussions about a District website are continuing. A workshop may be in the works. The Zoom meetings at Pine County Jail as well as in person meetings at MSOP-Moose Lake have been temporarily suspended-presumably because of the increase in Covid-19 cases, although at MSOP recorded AA speeches will be allowed in. Details are being worked out.
That's it for now,
Kurt N. , DCM, District 11

Our Intergroup recently had a heart-warming experience with the Bridging the Gap and A.A. Correspondence program. We wanted to share it with your readers.

An incarcerated person who found the A.A. solution enrolled in the Bridging the Gap program and started correspondence with our Intergroup Corrections Chair. This individual was supposed to be released in 90-days. However, because of additional treatment he required, his release date was pushed back 18 months. The Corrections Chair asked the Intergroup members for assistance and we enthusiastically agreed. Thus, at the end of our Intergroup meetings we would all write our incarcerated friend a card.

Our friend was thrilled! He had never received so much mail in his life. He told us that he was the envy of all the prisoners on his block because he received so much mail. When they asked him from whom he was getting all this mail, he proudly told them, "My friends in A.A."

Our friend was recently released and moved into our community. He is now attending A.A. regularly and recently visited our Intergroup to thank the members who wrote to him.

JD, Big Lake, MN
SCI Secretary

Being one of those individuals who has ventured out to face-to-face meetings since the pandemic started, I was so excited to see such a good turn out at the recent Area Assembly in St. Cloud! The Zoom meetings, while necessary and highly useful, are still a distant second to meeting in person with my fellow Alcoholics. Just my opinion.

As face-to-face PI work has gradually begun to open up, I have been trying to contact and share with as many Districts as possible. My personal focus has been to encourage and assist Districts in the process of establishing District phone Hotlines and District Websites. Both seem to be enthusiastically received and many Districts are in the process of setting these up or upgrading existing systems.

Attendance and participation in Area PI/CPC meetings has been wonderful. The sharing, the work and the effort to find more ways to carry the message is so inspiring! I look forward to our next gathering!

Greg C.
Area 35 P.I. Chair

“Happiness is not a station we arrive at; it’s a way of traveling.”

May 1953, “Short Takes”, AA Grapevine

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.

Trustee at Large Resume:

Michael J. Hibbing, Mn Ph
Sobriety date: March 29, 1989
Service positions:
Group:Chairperson .Gsr.treasurer.Coffeemaker.Greeter
District: Dem.Alt Dem.Treasurer.PI chair, Corrections chair
Area 35: Panel 64 Delegate. Alt Delegate, Area Chair, Treasurer, PI Chair. Part of FOC committee

I have served many positions as an AA member:
I sponsor and have a sponsor
Served on Iron Range Get-Together for 30 years at various positions including Chair, Speaker chair, PI chair. Treasurer.Literature Chair
I have always been active serving AA

My career positions have included the following:
Mechanic, Halfway house tech.Had my own computer business. Paraprofes-sional in an Academy for youth with criminal and mental problems. Indian Education Advisor for high school youth
Currently Retired

I graduated High School, 2 and a half years of community college with an AA degree and a Computer Information certificate
I have Coordinated a foreign Exchange program and Hosted 13 students in my home.

I worked in Chile for 3 months, traveled to Germany twice and have traveled much of the US
I have talked with my family about this commitment and while I have a few health problems I feel I would be fit to serve as a Trustee and would do the very best I could for AA. I am well studied in the Traditions and Concepts of AA. I believe this would be the most important asset I would bring to this posi-tion
Yours in Service Jake (Michael J.)

THE FOLLOWING MATERIAL CONCERNING COVID –19 AND MASKING IS BEING CIRCULATED AMONG VARIOUS AA INTERGROUPS ACROSS THE COUNTRY PROVIDING GOOD "FOOD FOR THOUGHT"

In addition to suggestions for groups to consider, there are also ‘musts’ that groups need to abide by to stay within the regulations and mandates of our state. While there are no ‘musts’ in the A.A. program, there are legal musts in the larger community. Fortunately, our programs of recovery has taught us how to be responsible citizens both in A.A. and the world.

To protect A.A., groups should be mindful of the Tra-ditions. Tradition 1 tells us “Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.” When making group decisions, we say, “Each group is autonomous.” How-ever, the second part of Tradition 4 is just as important: “except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.” These traditions remind us that we must ensure that our group decisions do not negatively impact our fellow members or A.A. as a whole, and that we as in-dividuals act in ways that ensure our common welfare.

Traditions 1 and 4 are important now more than ever. We have to consider the health and well-being of other A.A. members, and we need to protect the positive reputation and goodwill of A.A. in the community.

END OF COPIED MESSAGE

Area 35 Fall Assembly Evaluations

Total Evaluations- 17

GSR- 9 – DCM – 3 – Other – 6- (one had checked GSR and Other)

How did you like this Assembly?

Great experience.
It went well for a Hybrid assembly. I think the breakout sessions or GSR’s & DCM’s is getting better and more informative each time. It was very good, especially considering the circumstances. Zoom was mostly seamless other than access.
Excellent, very informing
I feel like that we had plenty of time to address our issues. – The schedule worked well.
Different with fewer people, but so happy others could join us by Zoom. Miss the hugging and closeness but we will survive. Needed to see old friends.
Did a good job, kept things moving along.
Of course, the totality of being together in person was missed very much. The energy of many persons working together, hugs etc missed. Glad you were able to add Zoom to include more of us not able to attend. Content great. GSR ½ training 60 minutes sharing was good. Would like discussion in which topics time to discuss or delve into right in the beginning. Also, Chair and Secretary be passed to another willing person right from the get go.
I felt that it was very informative and I am glad I was here.
Very informative, especially appreciated the GSR Sharing Sessions. “Condoms” were a funny touch to the presentations at the micro- phone.
I thought the combination of Zoom with in person worked great. I felt the F2F (face to face) went great!
I almost feel guilty sitting here in person with Area spending money for that privilege. Zoom may be a better fit financially until this pandemic is over.
It was great to be able to be face to face again.
We need to meet in person.
It was a good assembly and I think it went good for the first hybrid meeting.

How can we better meet your needs?

Keep up good work
Area Officers should each have a Zoom account for access reasons.
The cost is more than outweighed by the convenience.



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.

Contributions from the fellowship

Bias Confirmation. Now, I'm a pretty well-read person. Try to keep up on things. But this is a new one for me. And it came up twice in the span of two weeks with two very different outcomes. Now Bias, according to Websters, is an inclination of temperament or outlook...or as a verb; to give a settled and often prejudiced outlook to. Confirmation is; confirming proof. In my first encounter with the term Bias confirmation it was the result of brief political conversation. My political conversations are all brief, because I rarely start them and always quickly end them. I had ended this one by referencing a particular information source and was told that it was worthless except for Bias Confirmation. That kind of chaffed me and left me a little wounded as us Alcoholics tend to be when someone suggests that we are wrong. It seemed pretty negative.

Now the second encounter was in an AA meeting. While discussing a step in this 12 and 12 meeting, someone suggested that more in-depth reading and discussion on the principles of the program always provides more Bias Confirmation. Now in this context, I took it as a huge positive! You bet I have a strong Bias about Alcoholics Anonymous. It saved my life! And in that same meeting, two different individuals talked about prayer and the sometimes, immediate impact of that on their lives. It was a profound confirmation of my settled and prejudiced outlook that the program of Alcoholics Anonymous is the best and surest solution to my Alcohol problem. I came home and read some more in my Big Book, continuing my Bias Confirmation, and felt really good about it. The experience also showed me how engaging the Program in my everyday life can really help me shape negatives into positives thus affecting my temperament and outlook. So my readings, my meetings, my Fellowship...all means of providing THIS Alcoholic with confirming proof that it really works if you work it. Greg C.

Covid-19 Effect on AA Financial Needs

As our society deals with increasing challenges to our personal and family daily routines caused by Covid-19, so do we in AA confront the various challenges of the Coronavirus: *Limited meeting spaces due to landlord requirements. *Fears of gathering in large numbers due to local or state regulations which limit options. *Concern for current or future group financial commitments due to limited, or no, collection of 7th step offerings. *Fear. *Fear. *Fear.

No responsible recovering alcoholic will cavalierly dismiss reasonable safety standards or public health guidelines. In sobriety we are learning to accept responsibilities as adults. We need to respect and to exhibit behaviors which will meet regulations or societal requirements while at the same time permit us to meet our primary purpose: To Stay Sober.

From information shared by DCM's and P.I. Chair Greg C. we learn that some meetings have "evaporated" with no knowledge if or when they will resume; Zoom meetings have not uniformly figured out how to collect the 7th tradition proceeds; reduced attendance at "live" meetings has resulted in fewer dollars and coins in their baskets. Yet in this time of less income for the group, District, Area, and GSO many expenses remain static. What will this mean in coming months and years? Costs of materials, rent, and necessary supplies rarely decline...usually they increase by at least cost of living adjustments. Concurrent with this challenge is the fact that for many of us our personal sources of income have declined or perhaps evaporated.

What can we do to observe the 7th Tradition: "Every AA Group Ought to be Fully Self-supporting, Declining Outside Contributions."? The General Service Office (GSO) has issued a Frequently Asked Question fact sheet. "Q. Our group is meeting virtually as a result of Covid-19. Our meeting costs are low, so why do we need to take a Seventh Tradition collection? A. The spirit of self-support ensures that even minimal expenses are borne by the whole group rather than by individual members. In addition, many groups want to continue support for other AA services...Literature sales, which traditionally help pay for services, currently are much lower than usual."

Covid-19 Effect on Finances So, what we do to honor our commitment to be "...self-supporting through our own contributions"? Some suggestions: Hold a group conscience meeting to understand what has changed in these times of Covid-19. Review your group's historical levels of contributions to all entities. Review the AA pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix". Make a plan which suits your group.

When the basket is passed at meetings, are we prepared for that moment by checking our wallets, purses or pockets before the meeting to make sure we have money at hand? I can recall my good intentions when I put nothing in the basket with the firm resolve that I will double my contribution "next week."

Don't give beyond your capabilities, but give. How many times have I put a buck in the basket while holding onto a few more dollars so that I can enjoy coffee and pie at Perkins after the meeting? A buck doesn't cut it today.

Most of us have experienced extremely difficult financial set backs because of the consequences of alcoholic behavior. The longer we remain sober the more we can attribute material success to AA. Don't we have an obligation to support financially what gave us a "new life"?

Keep it simple. Without the financial contributions of the many thousands who came to AA before my arrival, we would not function today. As we put our dollars in the basket, think of the man or woman who will walk through our doors next week. Meeting space, books, reading materials and a cup of coffee will be here for them, along with our warm smile and a calm expression that "all will be well...keep coming back."

Jim T.

Glenwood, MN

Humbled Again

To mask or not? Outside issue or not? To continue to zoom or not?

All good questions, no simple answer, and I am continually learning. I truly hope by the time this is printed it will be a non-issue.

Here we are still in this pandemic with this covid-19 crapola and now mask mandates. Churches, schools, meeting places all closed down for the "stay at home" order. AA meetings were held on Zoom and other online formats as we continued to meet to the best of our abilities in this pandemic. I heard some of us continued to meet to the best of our abilities in this pandemic. I heard some of us met in garages, picnic tables at parks, in parking lots, anywhere outside where a few people could gather and social distance. Anything for an AA meeting-oh how we needed them! Now thank goodness we can meet face to face again. Alano clubs, churches and other meeting places are slowly reopening however we are told to limit our numbers, "social distance" and wear a mask? Huh?? So as we begin opening our meetings again there seems to be disagreements in our AA rooms on whether we really wear masks and socially distance? Not everyone thinks they have to follow the guidelines and it is becoming an issue in the meetings. Some people leave meetings if others are not wearing masks. Others won't come back to meetings because they know not everyone is wearing a mask and feel unsafe so they stay on zoom. So is it an "outside issue" when it affects the meetings/groups? I don't know?

At first I didn't take it serious and figured it was a passing thing and rebelled a bit and didn't wear masks because the old me came out and once again said, "surely that doesn't apply to me". Then the Governor made it an Executive Order that we must follow. Well again I wanted to rebel and the old me came outsaying "no one is going to make me wear a mask!" "I won't live in fear" etc. etc. excuses, excuses, rationalizing 101... Then I was reminded of some of the principles Alcoholics Anonymous has taught me over the years of painstaking growth. I didn't feel right when I would see a sign on the door of the Alano club or church that said "masks are required per governor's order" and I walked without a mask anyway. It didn't feel right.. I felt that nagging dishonesty. I don't like feeling anymore thanks to Alcoholics Anonymous. There is no reason physically why I can't wear a mask and I have no excuse. So what do I have to do to make it right? The program has taught me to do the next right thing even if I don't want to. Believe me, I don't want to wear a mask or social distance., however I feel it is the "next right thing to do" because I have been taught and been changed enough to take direction, follow the rules and obey the laws even if I don't want to. My natural instinct is selfishness, self-centered and rebellious. Only through the teaching, practice and more practice by God's Grace have I been able to change thanks to you all teaching me. So after taking my inventory, asking God for forgiveness and asking what corrective measures I can take. I WILL be wearing a mask to meetings and when in public. First because it is an executive order that I must follow. Second because it is the right thing to do and third because I am sober today and I can be humbled enough to follow directions Especially when I don't want to.

To answer the "is it an outside issue or not?" question—well Traditions 1 and 10 may help. "Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity." From the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions page 129-130 "No A.A. can compel another to do anything; nobody can be punished or expelled...the Twelve Traditions which guarantee A.A.'s unity contain not a single "Don't." They repeatedly say "we ought..." The A.A. member has to conform to the principles of recovery...At first he goes along because he must, but later he discovers a way of life he really wants to live. No one can expel you or me from A.A. for not wearing a mask but our unity seems to be lacking? I finally want to conform to the principles of this program because I do love this way of life, because I ought to and because I want the unity of the meetings back. I don't want people to feel like they are not safe or their health is at risk at an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting therefore they leave. What if that person leaving is a newcomer who walks in with a mask on and sees no one else wearing one? How does that look for A.A.? What if that person is an old timer with health issues? We can't forget the long timers and those that have health issues that choose to stay on Zoom because they are at risk. Yes the newcomer is important and we need to be there for them, but we also need to be there for the elderly and those with health issues. I think Zoom is a blessing and I will keep zooming as well as my regular meetings. As long as there is a need to bring a meeting to an alcoholic who for whatever reason feels they can't physically be at a meeting. We need to help all who suffer from alcoholism, young and old, newcomer and old timer. It's not for any of us to judge when someone should go back to face to face meetings. That's Unity!

Tradition 10—"Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy." Page 176 "Practically never have I heard a heated religious, political or reform argument among A.A. members. So long as we don't argue these matters privately, it's a cinch we never shall publicly." So I figure let's not argue about it. If we just do the right thing and live by the principles we have been taught, it won't be an outside issue.

Thanks for letting me share!

Denise R. District 13, DCM

THE AA PREAMBLE: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

THE PREAMBLE was introduced in the June 1947 issue of the AA Grapevine magazine. It was written by the then-editor, who borrowed much of the phrasing from the Foreword to the original edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*.

In those early years, the Grapevine had just begun to circulate among nonalcoholics, and the Preamble was intended primarily to describe for them what AA is and is not. It is still often used for public information purposes. As time passed, it began appearing in all Conference-approved publications, and many AA groups now use it to open meetings.

The original version differed in two ways from the familiar form we all know: 1) It stated that the only requirement for membership is an *honest* desire to stop drinking,” and 2) it contained only the very brief statement “AA has no dues or fees.”

People often ask why the word “honest” was deleted. At the 1958 General Service Conference, a delegate asked about the words “honest desire to stop drinking,” suggesting that since “honest” does not appear in the Third Tradition, it might be deleted from the Preamble. In discussion, most Conference members felt that as AA had matured, it had become almost impossible to determine what constitutes an honest desire to stop drinking, and also that some who might be interested in the program could be confused by the phrase. Thus, as part of the evolution of AA, the phrase had been dropped from common usage. The mid-summer 1958 meeting of the General Service Board of Trustees ratified the deletion, and since then the Preamble has read simply “a desire to stop drinking.”

At the same time, the phrase “AA has no dues or fees” was clarified to read as it presently does: “There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions.” The current version of the Preamble appears on page one of every issue of the Grapevine.

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AA PREAMBLE©

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

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SM F-127

“I can no longer use the illness of alcoholism as an excuse for anything. There is a catch, however. If I fail to use my recovery in service to others, I will become sick again.”

“Service Is the Reason,” Winnipeg, Manitoba, June 1979, Best of the Grapevine, Vol. 2

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON PRACTICING THE SEVENTH TRADITION AT VIRTUAL MEETINGS

In recent years a number of groups have utilized digital payment platforms to provide opportunities for members to make cashless contributions. There are different payment platforms to facilitate this service, and it is up to the group to determine which one to use. Experience suggests that the treasurer is a natural choice to handle digital contributions. Some groups, however, share the responsibilities among trusted servants or even create a new service position to inform group members about digital payment options and assist those who are interested in contributing this way.

Q. Our group is meeting virtually as a result of Coronavirus (COVID-19). Our meeting costs are low, so why do we need to take a Seventh Tradition collection?

A. The spirit of self-support ensures that even minimal expenses are borne by the whole group rather than by individual members. In addition, many groups want to continue support for other A.A. services. Local intergroup/central offices still have bills to pay, such as rent and utilities. Many have employees who are working hard to keep meeting information updated and respond to calls for help. The Online Intergroup of A.A. also has its own costs which require support, and many districts and areas continue to have expenses as they support the work of committees and plan future events. Furthermore, the General Service Office needs to cover its operating expenses in order to continue providing services. Literature sales, which traditionally help pay for services, currently are much lower than usual.

Q. If our group decides we want to “pass the virtual basket” how would we get started?

A. Often a group will have their treasurer or other members gather shared experience and information on different digital payment options, then present that to the group for discussion at a business meeting.

Q. What kind of options are available?

A. Here are some of the digital payment platforms that groups using: Apple Pay, Cash-App, Google Pay, PayPal, Venmo and Zelle. Information on options being used locally may be available from your intergroup/central office, district or area.

Q. How would we decide between them?

A. Groups often compare the costs and benefits of each platform, considering things like ease of set up and use, payment processing fees, security, privacy, and how commonly known it is. Some groups offer multiple options for their members.

Q. Once the group decides, then what?

A. Often it will be the group treasurer who sets up the account and links it to the bank account the group is using (for more information on setting up bank accounts and tax ID numbers, see the links below). It is helpful to choose a username for the account that is simple and intuitive since it will be shared with those attending the meeting. Groups usually avoid using a personal email that reveals someone’s full name so as not to compromise that person’s anonymity. Often at the beginning of a digital meeting, or during a break, groups will share the username through the chat or a screen share as they make an announcement about practicing the Seventh Tradition. It is recommended that groups do not share the username as part of the meeting’s public online information.

Q. What about anonymity?

A. Some digital payment platforms have social components that members may want to disable to protect anonymity. For example, members have shared about changing the privacy settings on Venmo so contributions are only visible to the sender and recipient. A couple of intergroup/central offices have posted helpful guides to practicing the Seventh Tradition at virtual meetings:

[Best Practices for Online 7th Tradition Contribution from SF and Marin Office](#)

[Remote meetings 7th Tradition Best Practices from New York Intergroup Office](#)

For more information on the Seventh Tradition and shared experience for A.A. group treasurers: [The A.A. Group Treasurer](#)

[Self Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix](#)

[A.A. Guidelines on Finance](#)

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Nov/Dec 2020

NORTHERN LIGHT

Created 1982

Page 12

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

Service Events

2020

December : 6th Area Committee Meeting
Via Zoom 9-2

19th Virtual Regional Forum
Link at: www.aa.org 9-5

2021

January : 16th Area 35 Service Workshop
Via Zoom 9-5

February: 28th Area Committee Meeting
Aitkin or Zoom 9-2

March: 5th-7th WCRAASC
Rapid City, SD

45th ANNUAL AREA 35 SERVICE WORKSHOP

A Healthy Clear Vision for You

January 16, 2021

Zoom Workshop

Zoom ID Number: 432 323 0944 Password: Area35

9:00 Opening and Announcements

9:15 Service Work during a Pandemic District 4

Discussion/Sharing/Questions

9:45 Importance of Tradition 7 during a Pandemic District 3

Discussion/Sharing/Questions

10:15 BREAK

10:30 Isolation and Emotional Sobriety during a Pandemic District 9

Discussion/Sharing/Questions

11:00 Finding the Fellowship during a Pandemic District 8

Discussion/Sharing/Questions

11:30 LUNCH (on your own)

12:30 Be Involved, Be Inspired, Be of Service Past WCR Trustee Ken B.

Discussion/Sharing/Questions

1:30 Public Information, GSO and Covid-19 GSO PI Coordinator Racy J.

Discussion/Sharing/Questions

2:30 BREAK

2:45 Home Group Health during a Pandemic District 16

Discussion/Sharing/Questions

3:15 Working With Others and the Newcomer during a Pandemic District 12

Discussion/Sharing/Questions

3:45 Break


4:00 OPEN SPEAKER MEETING Past WCR Trustee Ken B.

Ice Cream Social to Follow (Bring your own Ice Cream) 🍦

NO Registration Fee this Time

“Let us not be afraid of unsettling or boring our comrades by talking about our reactions to whatever is bothering us at a given moment; for this is how we learn to live.”

Saratoga, Calif., August 1985, “Beyond the Generation Gap”, The Home Group: Heartbeat of AA



Area 35
General Service Conference
Agenda Items Process

Greetings Area 35,

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

We realize that this timeframe does not give us a lot of time for discussion within our home groups before our April Spring Assembly.

It is the responsibility of the DCM’s to get the Agenda Items along with the “Hot Topic List” to the group GSR’s in their District. It is important that this information be passed on as soon as it is received.

Thank you for your Help.

Agenda
Deadline Dates

December 15th

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

February 15th

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

The Webmaster posts the material on our website(www.area35.org) with a Protected Password. The Delegate sends out an email to the Area 35 Committee with the “Hot Topic List” along with the password information. Which is used to get the Agenda Items and background Information off the Area 35 Web-site.

4th Sunday in February

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

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

1st Weekend in March

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

1st Weekend in April

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

3rd Week in April

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

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
CONTACT

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

2021 Budget							Position: Delegate					
	Service	Feb.	WCRS	Spring	June	Aug.	WCR	Fall	Dec.	Gen	Dist	
	<i>Wrkshop</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Conf.</i>	<i>Assy.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Forum</i>	<i>Assy.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Sr Conf</i>	<i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	70.00	7.00	180.00	90.00	7.00	7.00		70.00	7.00			438.00
Travel	43.00	39.31	117.50	15.00	39.31	39.31		14.00	39.31		850.00	1196.74
Lodging	150.00		450.00	150.00				150.00		1800.00	600.00	3300.00
Phone/Web												
Supplies		25.00		25.00								50.00
Printing		900.00		300.00								1200.00
Postage												
Other	10.00		15.00									25.00
Budgeted	273.00	971.31	762.50	580.00	46.31	46.31		234.00	46.31	1800.00	1450.00	6209.74

2021 Budget							Position: Alt Delegate						
	Service	Feb.	WCRS	Spring	June	Aug.	WCR	Fall	Dec.	Zonal	Zonal	Dist	
	<i>Wrkshop</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Conf.</i>	<i>Assy.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Forum</i>	<i>Assy.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Forum</i>	<i>Forum</i>	<i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	100.00	7.00	295.00	100.00	7.00	7.00		100.00	7.00	25.00		80.00	728.00
Travel	75.00	40.00	250.00	120.00	40.00	40.00		120.00	40.00	80.00		500.00	1305.00
Lodging	260.00		390.00	260.00				260.00					1170.00
Phone/Web													
Supplies	150.00												150.00
Printing	50.00												50.00
Postage													
Other	15.00		15.00										30.00
Budgeted	650.00	47.00	950.00	480.00	47.00	47.00		480.00	47.00	105.00		580.00	3433.00

2021 Budget							Position: Area Chair						
	Service	Feb.	WCRS	Spring	June	Aug.	WCR	Fall	Dec.	Zonal	Zonal	Dist	
	<i>Wrkshop</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Conf.</i>	<i>Assy.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Forum</i>	<i>Assy.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Forum</i>	<i>Forum</i>	<i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	60.00	7.00	85.00	85.00	7.00	7.00		60.00	7.00	15.00	15.00		348.00
Travel		22.00	100.00	65.00	22.00	22.00		35.00	22.00	50.00	30.00	125.00	493.00
Lodging			300.00	140.00				280.00					720.00
Phone/Web												193.08	193.08
Supplies				50.00									50.00
Printing		35.00		135.00	35.00	35.00		135.00					375.00
Postage													
Other	10.00		15.00										25.00
Budgeted	70.00	64.00	500.00	475.00	64.00	64.00		510.00	29.00	65.00	45.00	125.00	2204.08

2021 Budget							Position: Secretary						
	Service	Feb.	WCRS	Spring	June	Aug.	WCR	Fall	Dec.	Zonal	Zonal	Dist	
	<i>Wrkshop</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Conf.</i>	<i>Assy.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Forum</i>	<i>Assy.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Forum</i>	<i>Forum</i>	<i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	60.00	7.00	120.00	60.00	7.00	7.00		60.00	7.00	40.00		40.00	408.00
Travel	35.00	20.00	125.00	20.00	20.00	20.00		20.00	20.00	20.00		100.00	400.00
Lodging	155.00		250.00	155.00				155.00		140.00			855.00
Phone/Web													
Supplies													
Printing				10.00				10.00					820.00
Postage		800.00											
Other	10.00		15.00										25.00
Budgeted	260.00	827.00	510.00	245.00	27.00	27.00		245.00	27.00	200.00		140.00	2508.00

2021 Budget							Position: Treasurer						
	Service	Feb.	WCRS	Spring	June	Aug.	WCR	Fall	Dec.	Zonal	Dist.	Other	
	<i>Wrkshop</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Conf.</i>	<i>Assy.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Forum</i>	<i>Assy.</i>	<i>Mtg.</i>	<i>Forum</i>	<i>Travel</i>		Total
Meals	68.00	7.00	118.00	68.00	7.00	7.00		68.00	7.00	110.00	110.00		570.00
Travel		23.49	172.54	66.24	23.49	23.49		38.54	23.49	122.85	122.85		616.98
Lodging			300.00	300.00				300.00					900.00
Phone/Web													
Supplies												319.95	319.95
Printing													
Postage												240.00	240.00
Other	15.00		15.00										30.00
Budgeted	83.00	30.49	605.54	434.24	30.49	30.49		406.54	30.49	232.85	232.85	559.95	2676.93

2021 Budget							Position: Archives						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	40.00	7.00	40.00	40.00	7.00	7.00		55.00	7.00	40.00		40.00	283.00
Travel		15.00	130.00	20.00	15.00	15.00		20.00	15.00	40.00		50.00	320.00
Lodging			280.00	260.00				260.00				150.00	950.00
Phone/Web													
Supplies													
Printing		10.00			10.00	10.00			10.00				40.00
Postage													
Other	10.00		15.00										25.00
Budgeted	50.00	32.00	465.00	320.00	32.00	32.00		335.00	32.00	80.00		240.00	1618.00

2021 Budget							Position: Archivist					
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Archives <i>Repository</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	60.00	7.00	60.00	60.00	7.00	7.00		60.00	7.00	50.00		318.00
Travel	100.00	20.00	150.00	60.00	20.00	20.00		60.00	20.00	250.00	100.00	800.00
Lodging	280.00		280.00	280.00				280.00				1120.00
Phone/Web												
Supplies										150.00		150.00
Printing												
Postage												
Other	15.00		15.00							2400.00		2430.00
Budgeted	455.00	27.00	505.00	400.00	27.00	27.00		400.00	27.00	2850.00	100.00	4818.00

2021 Budget							Position: Audio Tech					
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	30.00	7.00		30.00	7.00	7.00		30.00	7.00			118.00
Travel	20.00	30.00		70.00	30.00	30.00		55.00	30.00			265.00
Lodging	450.00			450.00				450.00				1350.00
Phone/Web												
Supplies												200.00
Printing												
Postage												
Other	15.00											15.00
Budgeted	515.00	37.00		550.00	37.00	37.00		535.00	37.00			1948.00

2021 Budget							Position: Corrections						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	80.00	7.00	80.00	60.00	7.00	7.00		60.00	7.00			60.00	368.00
Travel	55.00	15.00	135.00	20.00	15.00	15.00		20.00	15.00			50.00	340.00
Lodging	150.00		300.00	150.00				150.00					750.00
Phone/Web												193.08	193.08
Supplies													
Printing													
Postage													
Other	15.00		15.00									30.00	60.00
Budgeted	300.00	22.00	530.00	230.00	22.00	22.00		230.00	22.00			333.08	1711.08

2021 Budget							Position: CPC						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	25.00	7.00	45.00	20.00	7.00	7.00		25.00	7.00				143.00
Travel	50.00	55.00	150.00	45.00	55.00	55.00		25.00	55.00				490.00
Lodging			250.00										250.00
Phone/Web												193.08	193.08
Supplies													
Printing													
Postage													
Other	15.00		15.00										30.00
Budgeted	90.00	62.00	460.00	65.00	62.00	62.00		50.00	62.00			193.08	1106.08

2021 Budget							Position: Fin. Oversight						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals		7.00			7.00	7.00			7.00				28.00
Travel		20.00			20.00	20.00			20.00				80.00
Lodging													
Phone/Web													
Supplies													
Printing													
Postage													
Other													
Budgeted		27.00			27.00	27.00			27.00				108.00

2021 Budget							Position: Fin. Oversight						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals		7.00			7.00	7.00			7.00				28.00
Travel		20.00			20.00	20.00			20.00				80.00
Lodging													
Phone/Web													
Supplies													
Printing													
Postage													
Other													
Budgeted		27.00			27.00	27.00			27.00				108.00

2021 Budget							Position: Grapevine						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	60.00	7.00	60.00	60.00	7.00	7.00		60.00	7.00			30.00	298.00
Travel	10.00	50.00	250.00	90.00	50.00	50.00		60.00	50.00	50.00		50.00	710.00
Lodging	300.00		300.00	300.00				300.00				300.00	1500.00
Phone/Web												193.08	193.08
Supplies	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00		20.00	20.00			20.00	180.00
Printing													
Postage													
Other	15.00		15.00										30.00
Budgeted	405.00	77.00	645.00	470.00	77.00	77.00		440.00	77.00	50.00		400.00	2911.08

2021 Budget							Position: Group Records						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	80.00	7.00	200.00	80.00	7.00	7.00		80.00	7.00				468.00
Travel	15.00	10.00	45.00	15.00	10.00	10.00		15.00	10.00				130.00
Lodging	150.00		310.00	150.00				150.00					760.00
Phone/Web													
Supplies		10.00		10.00				10.00					30.00
Printing				50.00									50.00
Postage		3.75		3.75	3.75	3.75		3.75	3.75				22.50
Other	15.00		15.00					15.00					45.00
Budgeted	260.00	30.75	570.00	308.75	20.75	20.75		273.75	20.75				1505.50

2021 Budget							Position: Literature						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	100.00	7.00		100.00	7.00	7.00		100.00	7.00				328.00
Travel	50.00	12.00		50.00	12.00	12.00		70.00	12.00				218.00
Lodging	300.00			280.00				280.00					860.00
Phone/Web												193.08	193.08
Supplies													
Printing													
Postage													
Other	15.00												15.00
Budgeted	465.00	19.00		430.00	19.00	19.00		450.00	19.00				1614.08

2021 Budget							Position: Northern Light						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	140.00	7.00	140.00	100.00	7.00	7.00		140.00	7.00				548.00
Travel	31.21	14.14	164.96	58.91	14.14	14.14		47.13	14.14				358.77
Lodging	150.00		300.00	300.00				150.00					900.00
Phone/Web													
Supplies													
Printing		375.00		375.00	375.00	375.00		375.00	375.00				2250.00
Postage		300.00		300.00	300.00	300.00		300.00	300.00				1800.00
Other	15.00		15.00										30.00
Budgeted	336.21	696.14	619.96	1133.91	696.14	696.14		1012.13	696.14				5886.77

2021 Budget							Position: Public Info						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	60.00	7.00	100.00	60.00	7.00	7.00		60.00	7.00				308.00
Travel	52.00	36.00	217.00	63.00	36.00	36.00		22.00	36.00			275.00	773.00
Lodging	140.00		280.00	140.00				140.00					700.00
Phone/ Web												193.08	193.08
Supplies												300.00	300.00
Printing													
Postage													
Other	15.00		15.00										30.00
Budgeted	267.00	43.00	612.00	263.00	43.00	43.00		222.00	43.00			575.00	2304.08

2021 Budget							Position: Treatment						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	60.00	7.00	60.00	60.00	7.00	7.00		60.00	7.00			30.00	298.00
Travel	10.00	50.00	250.00	90.00	50.00	50.00		60.00	50.00	50.00		50.00	710.00
Lodging	300.00		300.00	300.00				300.00				300.00	1500.00
Phone/Web												193.08	193.08
Supplies													
Printing		20.00			20.00	20.00			20.00			20.00	100.00
Postage													
Other	15.00		15.00										30.00
Budgeted	385.00	77.00	625.00	450.00	77.00	77.00		420.00	77.00	50.00		400.00	2831.08

2021 Budget							Position: Webmaster						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCR <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	70.00	7.00	140.00	70.00	7.00	7.00		70.00	7.00				378.00
Travel	24.00	13.00	128.00	40.00	13.00	20.00		33.00	13.00				284.00
Lodging	150.00		450.00	300.00				300.00					1200.00
Phone													
Supplies													
Printing					25.00								25.00
Postage													
Other	15.00	200.00	15.00										230.00
Budgeted	259.00	220.00	733.00	410.00	45.00	27.00		403.00	20.00				2117.00

2021 Budget							Position: Area Events						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WCRS <i>Conf.</i>	Spring <i>Assy.</i>	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	State Fair <i>Booth</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
Meals	100.00												100.00
Travel	70.00												70.00
Lodging	260.00												260.00
Rent	886.00	50.00		1700.00	50.00	50.00	500.00	1900.00	50.00				5186.00
Coffee	150.00			500.00				500.00					1150.00
Printing													
Postage													
Other	50.00												50.00
Budgeted	1516.00	50.00		2200.00	50.00	50.00	500.00	2400.00	50.00				6816.00

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,
Cindy S-K.

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
7633 15th Ave NE
Rice, MN 56367

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 2021 are as Follows:

- ◆ January 4th : Flier will be included in the January/February Issue
- ◆ March 8th : Flier will be included in the March/April Issue
- ◆ May 1st : Flier will be included in the May/June Issue
- ◆ July 7th : Flier will be included in the July/August Issue
- ◆ September 1rd : Flier will be included in the September/October Issue
- ◆ November 5th : Flier will be included in the November/December Issue

Are you A.A. energized?

The task ahead of us is never great as the power behind us !

It was so great and wonderful to see the people and faces at this assembly. Every-time I come to these events I get so energized and excited to see my gifted fellows. Thank you Gayle for asking me to chair the Sunday morning big book meeting. I picked out a subject on spiritual experience. What kind of spiritual experience each of us had in this program. So most of us think this awareness of a power greater than ourselves is essences of a spiritual experience....so for us to find this spirituality of this program....willingness, honesty, open mindedness are essential for recovery ..thank you for letting me serve...Jeffrey O. GSR, Mora MN

Area 35 Guidelines

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

A good flyer should answer the following questions:

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

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

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

Acronyms

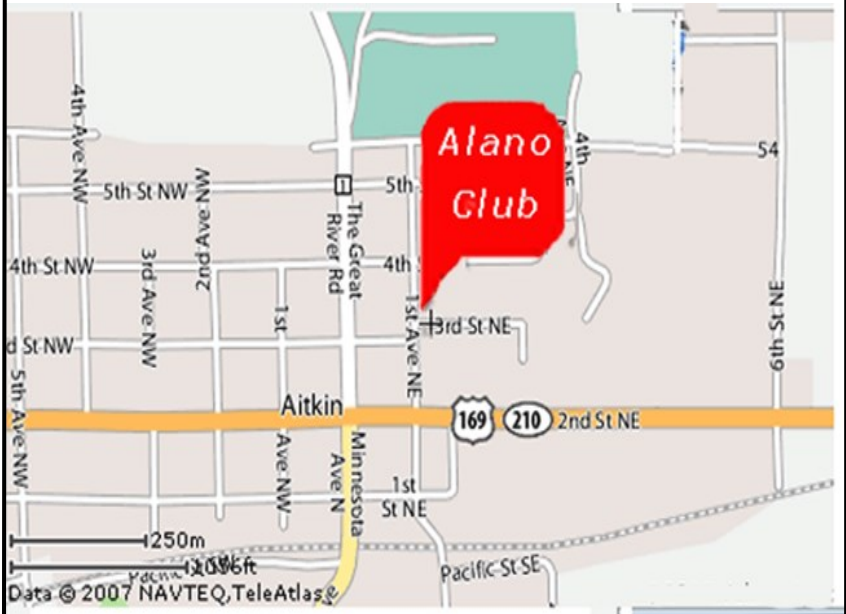
(Spaghetti Soup)

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

AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Where is the Aitkin Alano Club?

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



OUR PAST DELEGATES

<u>Panel 68</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>	Scott J.	<u>Panel 12</u>	<u>1962-1963</u>	
Christine G.			Donna T. (deceased)		
<u>Panel 66</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>	<u>Panel 36</u>	<u>1986-1987</u>	<u>Panel 10</u>	<u>1960-1961</u>
Kelly D.		Louie H.		Bob B. (deceased)	
<u>Panel 64</u>	<u>2014-2015</u>	<u>Panel 34</u>	<u>1984-1985</u>	<u>Panel 8</u>	<u>1958-1959</u>
Michael “Jake” J.		Bob P. (deceased)		Pearl N. (deceased)	
<u>Panel 62</u>	<u>2012-2013</u>	<u>Panel 32</u>	<u>1982-1983</u>	<u>Panel 6</u>	<u>1956-1957</u>
Jim K.		Tom L. (deceased)		Waldo H. (deceased)	
<u>Panel 60</u>	<u>2010-2011</u>	<u>Panel 30</u>	<u>1980-1981</u>	<u>Panel 4</u>	<u>1954-1955</u>
Jon C.		Don M. (deceased)		Wendell H. (deceased)	
<u>Panel 58</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>Panel 28</u>	<u>1978-1979</u>	<u>Panel 2</u>	<u>1952-1953</u>
JoAnne M N.		Garfield (Duffy) S. (deceased)		Arthur R. (deceased)	
<u>Panel 56</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>	<u>Panel 26</u>	<u>1976-1977</u>		
Jerry S.		Vern R. (deceased)			
<u>Panel 54</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>Panel 24</u>	<u>1974-1975</u>		
Charlie C.		Gordon B. H. (deceased)			
<u>Panel 52</u>	<u>2002-2003</u>	<u>Panel 22</u>	<u>1972-1973</u>		
Tim C.		Frank P. J. (deceased)			
<u>Panel 50</u>	<u>2000-2001</u>	<u>Panel 20</u>	<u>1970-1971</u>		
Tom A.		Clarence B. (deceased)			
<u>Panel 48</u>	<u>1998-1999</u>	<u>Panel 18</u>	<u>1968-1969</u>		
Susie A.		Dave H. (deceased)			
<u>Panel 46</u>	<u>1996-1997</u>	<u>Panel 16</u>	<u>1966-1967</u>		
Bill P. (deceased)		Arno A. (deceased)			
<u>Panel 44</u>	<u>1994-1995</u>	<u>Panel 14</u>	<u>1964-1965</u>		
Bruce B.		Donald F. (deceased)			
<u>Panel 42</u>	<u>1992-1993</u>				
Greg G. (deceased)					
<u>Panel 40</u>	<u>1990-1991</u>				
Bob J.					
<u>Panel 38</u>	<u>1988-1989</u>				

Q: Why list our past Delegates?

A: They are a resource to you!

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

The Delegate's Duties

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

- Attend the Conference meeting in April, fully prepared. Immediately upon election, every delegate is put on the G.S.O. mailing list to receive Conference materials.
- Communicate the actions of the Conference to area committee members and encourage them to pass on this information, and the delegate's enthusiasm, to groups and to intergroups/central offices. If an area is too large for the delegate to cover in person, he or she will ask area officers and committee members to share the load.
- Be prepared to attend all area, state/provincial, and regional service meetings and assemblies. From these meetings, delegates come to better understand their own areas and can make suggestions for the Conference agenda. Here, too, they come in contact with A.A. members who might not be reached otherwise.
- Help area committees obtain financial support for the area and G.S.O.
- Provide leadership in solving local problems involving the A.A. Traditions.

- Remind G.S.R.s to inform groups and individuals about the A.A. Grapevine and Conference-approved literature.
- Cooperate with G.S.O. in obtaining information—for example, making sure that up-to-date information reaches G.S.O. in time to meet the deadline for each Issue of the A.A. directory and helping carry out the triennial membership surveys.
- Visit groups and districts in the area whenever possible.
- Work closely with committee members and officers, sharing experience throughout the year. After G.S.R.s and committee members have reported on the Conference, learn from these A.A.s how groups and members have reacted.
- Assume added responsibility if the area chair and alternate chair are unable to serve. Or, if an area committee is not functioning effectively, the delegate may take an active role in remedying the situation.
- Keep the alternate delegate fully informed and active, so that the alternate can replace the delegate in an emergency.
- Late in the second term, work with newly elected delegates to pass along a basic knowledge of Conference proceedings and problems.

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

Area 35 Committee Meeting Agenda
Aitkin, MN
December 6th, 2020

_____ **9:00 A.M.** Action Chair Committee Meetings
(9:30 a.m. Financial Oversight Committee)
_____ **10:30 A.M.** Area Committee Meeting
_____ Call to Order Open with the Serenity Prayer
_____ Recognize Past Delegates

Welcome GSR's for this special assembly session..
Vote for the Area 35 Class B Trustee
_____ Add to Agenda
_____ **Approve Minutes from last ACM**

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 Gene M
_____ NORTHERN LIGHT – Cindy S-K
_____ District 8 Nels P
_____ GROUP RECORDS – Sally L
_____ District 2 Daniel W
_____ District 15-DCM- Lori L
_____ TREATMENT – Melissa M
_____ District 13 Denise R
_____ District 18 Barb R
_____ ARCHIVIST –
_____ ARCHIVES – Peter T
_____ District 16 Katy P
_____ District 12 Shelly 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

12:00 P.M. Lunch
12:45 P.M. Reconvene

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:
_____ FOC Report – Christine
_____ January Work Shop (Steve L)

_____ Calendar of Events
_____ Adjourn

NOTES:

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