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# This is **YOUR** Newsletter Area 35

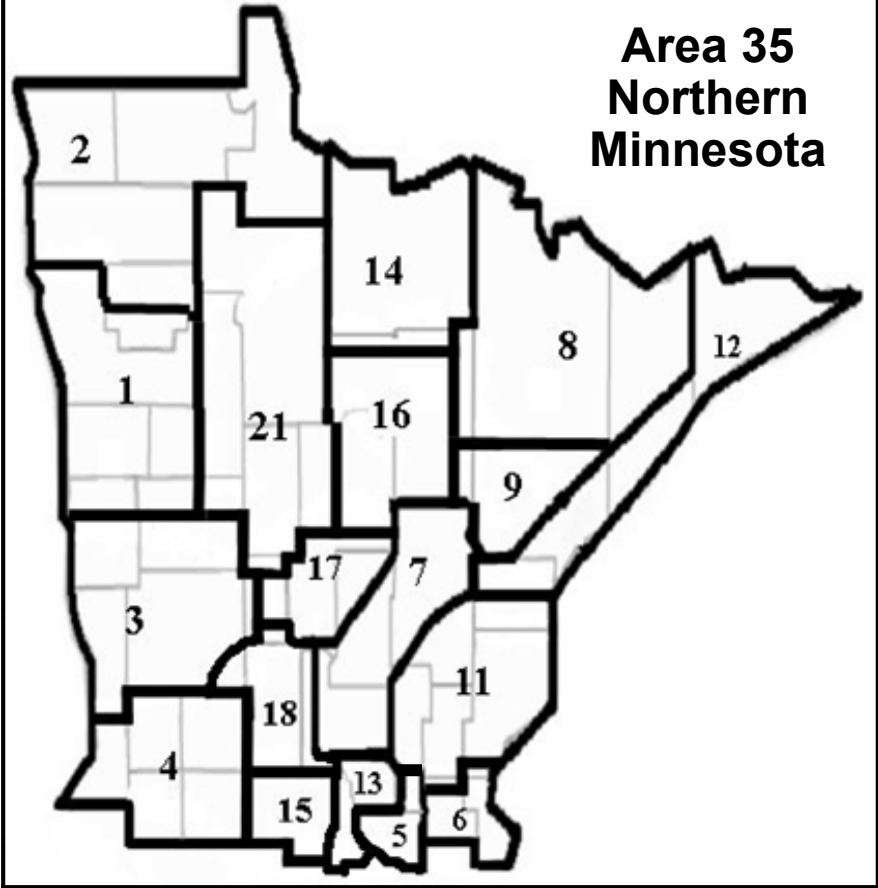
Ada, Aitkin, Akeley, Alango, Albany, Alexandria, Audubon, Aurora, Avon, Babbitt, Backus, Badger, Bagley, Barnesville, Barnum, Battle Lake, Baudette, Baxter, Beaver Bay, Becker, Bemidji, Bethel, Big Lake, Biwabik, Blackduck, Bowstring, Boy River, Braham, Brainerd, Brimson, Brookston, Browerville, Browns 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>





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, Carlos, Elbow Lake, Evansville, Glenwood, Kensington, Morris
- 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, Pillager\*, 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, Osakis\* ,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

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

District Meeting Location Information

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

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

- District 14**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of Month, 6:30pm  
Coffee Landing  
444 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
International Falls, MN 56649
- District 15**  
1<sup>st</sup> Monday of Month, 8:00 p.m.  
Albany Community Center  
741 Lake Ave  
Albany, MN 56307
- District 16**  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of Month, 6:30 p.m.  
United Methodist Church  
1701 SE 5<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744  
Handicap Accessible, Non-Smoking
- District 17**  
Not currently active or unknown
- District 18**  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Month, 6:00 p.m.  
Long Prairie Alano Club  
21 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave  
Long Prairie, MN 56347
- District 21**  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Spring Assembly Minutes  
Meeting via Zoom  
April 10 - 11, 2021

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

**Recognition of Past Area 35 Delegates in Attendance:** Tom A – panel 50, Susie A – panel 48, Kelly D – panel 66, Jim K – panel 62 and Mike J – panel 64.

**Additions to the Agenda:**

**Approval of the 2020 Fall Assembly Minutes:** Motion made and seconded to approve minutes. Minutes were approved.

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – Jim S

Good Morning everyone,

Since the Feb ACM I attended the WCRAASC. I would not encourage this format again and from what I have heard next year’s format will be what we are used to. I did forward a couple emails evaluating the conference.

Since them I went to districts 2,3,4,7,8,9,12,13,15 and 16 to discuss the agenda items. I would like to thank everyone for those opportunities as since we didn’t get to discuss all the agenda items together at the conference this was a great way for me to become more familiar with them.

I kept records of how the voting went during the Spring Assembly so I know how the Area voice would like me to vote. I assure you that I am not there to carry my voice but the voice of the Area. There would have to be some pretty incredible new information for me to sway my vote.

DCM’s, I am ready to start setting up delegate reports either in person or in zoom for when the conference is over. I have one set up already but encourage you to start thinking about what works for your district. I am available during the week and the weekend.

GSR’s, if you are frustrated with the assembly you can feel absolutely confident you can share those feelings with me and they will remain confidential. I was writing this when Sarah made the last comment on voting so I am hoping she can get me that information before I am done with my report. What that concern was, could some information be put up along with the poll so everyone would be certain of what they are voting for. I do not have an answer to that at this point as Thomas H, our webmaster is currently at the doctor’s office getting tested for strep throat but I will run it by him when I can. I would like to thank you all for the opportunity you have given me. I look forward to being able to see you all in person as soon as possible.

In Service, Jim S.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – Steve L

Good morning Ladies and gentlemen, I’m Steve Lere your Alt Delegate. One thing I forgot to tell the GSRs about the Alt Delegates duties is that after backing up the Delegate the primary duty is to facilitate putting the Area January workshop together. The Area workshop will be held on January 15 and 16, 2022 at the Detroit Lakes Holiday Inn. So far, I’ve booked in the Dates, the Venue and the Main speaker Mike L. who happens to be our WCR Trustee. I’ve blocked 40 rooms at 104 + tax, coffee is 1.25 a cup and most importantly we can have the ICE CREAM SOCIAL.

I have been attending a monthly Alt Delegates meeting by zoom the first of every month. We get about 55 out of 93 [Alt Delegates](#) from around the US and Canada. We rotate the hosting duties with a different region hosting the meeting and picking the topic of discussion, very interesting.

I attended the WCSC and 4 agenda item zoom meetings with Jim.

Fantastic GSR meeting report and topics, well done.

Good luck to Jim in attending the GSC later this month.

In service, Steven L.

AREA CHAIR – Gayle R

Good Morning Area 35. Your expectations of your trusted servants, your area chair, is to fulfill his/her job duties to the best of their abilities. For this Assembly I have not done that. I have tons of excuses, but failing to prepare, not just me but the expected work of others. Yesterday at the GSR Orientation, I threw the orientation presentation at the area officers without preparing them.. For Jim and Steve who has been through several orientations, it was unexpected but easily adjusted to. For Justin and Heidi, those two, have only been through one, maybe two orientations. When we just wing it, we sound unprofessional- we sound like we don’t know what we are doing. We sound like we are not trusted servants. I sincerely apologize to the Area officers, for my finding an easier softer way. Allowing my lack of preparing to affect others. Progress not perfection.

In normal rotations, we watch people, we see who has the service inspiration, dedication. We get to watch them grow.. We see people who, we feel, would make great Area Chairs, other officers who would make a great Delegate.. We would ask that person if he would be willing to stand for Delegate nominate him/her in our district.. This rotation is so different because we don’t get to “see” those servants- who sometimes work best in the background.. Looking around, do you see someone who would do our Area a great service being Delegate? Please ask them to stand, please nominate them through your district. All Delegate resumes need to be to me by June 6<sup>th</sup>. We print those in the Northern Light for the Fall Assembly officer/GSR vote.

I am hoping and praying we can be together in June. For current Covid-19

restrictions, we can gather- social distance- we will have to watch the lunch restrictions. IF we have the Area Committee Meeting in Aitkin on June 6, we will not have a hybrid meeting. There is not enough internet there.

Upcoming, the Fall Assembly will be at the Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria. I’ll have Heidi make up a flyer right after I touch base with them to make sure they have not cancelled on us.

Thank you for the honor and privilege for allowing me to serve Area 35.

Gayle R

SECRETARY – Heidi B

Greetings Area 35, It’s great to see everyone.

The February Area Committee Meeting minutes were completed and published in the last Northern Light. I was informed that the report for District 16 was incorrect, so that was fixed in the minutes sent to archives. I’m so sorry to Katy for that mistake!

Since the February Area Committee Meeting, I attended the WCRAASC. I have to say I was very disappointed in the format. Each year, I look forward to attending this conference and hearing from the region on the agenda items. This year were limited to attending only 2 committee discussions and these were limited to 45 minutes each. I understand that the pandemic meant that formats needed to be changed, but felt this could have been planned out better. I hope that future conferences will keep this in mind if a zoom conference is necessary.

I also attended the District 8, 9 and 16 agenda items meeting via Zoom. Our Delegate, Jim S also attended. Thanks Jim for zooming in and thanks to the DCM’s for planning this.

We’ve finally opened up my homegroup, Happy, Joyous and Free in Ely. It’s great to finally see each other and sit around the table, just like we used to do. DCM’s, thank you for continuing to send your district minutes to me! I enjoy reading 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 one week from today, Sunday, April 18th.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service, Heidi B.

TREASURER –Justin W

Greetings Area 35. I hope everyone is enjoying the arrival of spring. I am most excited to spend this rain free day in-doors after five straight days of rain, as I’m sure you all are as well. Service to Alcoholics Anonymous is something we all *get* to do, not something we *have* to do.

As of February it looks like we’re back on track with group contributions. In fact, Group Contributions for February and March of this year were higher than they were last year. Here’s a fancy graph showing the month-over-month comparison to last year. Fancy! (SEE PAGE 11)

I upgraded the Area Zoom Account per Gayle’s request to a business account so we could host a meeting with up to 300 people and have breakout sessions for the assembly. This increases the cost from \$16.99 per month to \$199.90 per month, which is not in the budget for the year, but we think it is a necessary expense.

I was invited to participate in General Service Conference Agenda Item discussions with District 13 on March 16<sup>th</sup>, March 30<sup>th</sup> and April 5<sup>th</sup>. We had some extremely informative discussions, and I am grateful to be in service with them and to have been invited to participate. They are passionate and committed to serving Alcoholics Anonymous and we met in-person which was awesome!

I do not have a return mailing address for any of the groups in Isanti. I did get an address from the DCM, but the contribution letter was returned from that address as well. Mike is working on getting me a good return address. If there is anybody here that can help straighten this out, please send me a chat message.

I received a contribution from the Tuesday Night Winners Group in Glenwood, but the group is not registered with GSO and we have no records here either. There was a return address and the contribution letter will indicate that I need them to contact me, but if there’s anyone here who can help, please send me a chat message.

I received a contribution from group and the name on the check was "Alcoholics Anonymous". The group is not registered with GSO and we don’t have any record in the area database. If anybody has any information, please contact me.

I’m grateful to be involved in general service. I believe it has played a big part in my sobriety, and I’m encouraged to see all of you here.

Thank You!

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.*

COMMITTEE CHAIR & DCM REPORTS

CPC – Brian P – (no report)

DISTRICT 9 – Ricco R

We attended the WCRAASC meeting on March 6, 2021 and got a good pre-view of the agenda items we will be discussing and voting on to give Jim S. our Area 35 Delegate a group conscience of our districts home groups to bring to the conference. We met with Jim S. our Delegate on March 21,2021 and went over the Agen-da list. Jim did an excellent job in keeping a nice flow in the group as we were discussing the Agenda Items and added a bunch of information that will be helpful to bring back to our groups to help us in the discussing and voting pro-cess. We had a GSR service workshop committee meeting on March 15, 2021 and got a boatload of things figured out and voted on for our next workshop. A flyer is being worked on now. More information to come on our June 19, 2021 workshop. We set a date of May 8, 2021 at 12:00pm, to have a report back from Jim S. our delegate on all that took place at the conference. In Unity and Service, Ricco

DISTRICT 4 – Bumper L – (no report)

WEBMASTER – Thomas H

Greetings Area 35, Since we have last met things have slowed down some for my position. I have updated a few fliers on the website and changed a few email forwarders. There also was an issue with AAminnesota.org new meet-ing form populating properly that I resolved.

Other than that there's not too much going on here!

Stay safe and thank you for the opportunity to serve the area! Thank you.

LITERATURE – Bruce M – (no report)

DISTRICT 14 – (no report)

DISTRICT 3 – Gene M

We have still been having our district meeting via Zoom. At our last meeting we joined other districts to go over agenda items with area delegate. We are looking at updating meeting information on website/ list removals and addi-tions. The phone line is receiving 3 - 6 calls per month. Our Alternate DCM Leslie B. is wanting to update meetings by us contacting groups. There is a pot luck/ round robin Thursday May 13th at 6:30 Moorhead Thursday night loca-tion. District 3 DCM Gene M.

NORTHERN LIGHT – Cindy S-K

Hi this is Cindy, your Northern Light editor. Due to the change of meeting dates I am unable to attend, tickets to Denver, Colorado won over Spring As-sembly. You all should have the latest issue of the Mar/Apr Northern Light in your possession. As always I have to humble myself because once again it has mis-takes. Maybe the next one will be perfect, one can always hope. I will be do-ing some updating to the district's contact information. If you see any changes that need to be made please let me know. Has anyone tried out the archives quiz Peter T. has been so kind to add? I had the privilege to attend District 11's agenda item review. Wow all of that content was able to be gone through in 3 1/2 hours. Some very lively discus-sion as each person had an opinion. I found the experience invigorating. Kurt N. did a great job leading us through it all.

Now to climb on my soapbox, I need your help to make this newsletter the best it can be. Please consider sending in your experiences going through the agenda items or maybe your thoughts on the Spring Assembly? Remem-ber this is your newsletter not Cindy's newsletter. The next deadline is May 1st.

Yours in service, Cindy S-K

DISTRICT 8 – Nels P

Greetings Area 35

District 8’s webpage is up and running and it is listed as district8online.org. We have had good luck with people updating current meet-ing information and changes helping us keeping it updated. We continue to have a phone line for our district to help the newcomer as well. As we contin-ue to open things up more I’m hopeful that more people will become involved in service in our district.

Thank you, Nels P.

GROUP RECORDS – Sally L

Greetings Area 35. There were five people at yesterday morning’s breakout session: Thomas H., Nels P., Danny W., Neil R., and myself. There was some discussion about how to get people interested in general service. Many groups are going back to meeting in person. Please let me know of any changes in your group’s meeting status so I can update aaminnesota.org to stay as current as possible. If your district has launched a district web page, please send me the address so I can add it to aaminnesota.org. The more ways we have to get information to people, the better. Neil R. from District 18 had an excellent suggestion that I will forward to GSO’s records department: Can we add a checkbox to the group change form to indicate whether the new GSR needs a new workbook? Often the work-books get passed from the old GSR to the new GSR, and we could save money if a new workbook is not needed.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. In service, Sally L.

DISTRICT 2 – Danny W

District 2 held its bi-monthly meeting March 14, 2021, at 2 PM at the Twin Rivers Clubhouse in Thief River Falls. There were 6 attendees present: DCM, District Treasurer, 1 GSR, 2 group members, and our Area Delegate. The meeting opened with the serenity prayer. The minutes from the January meeting were reviewed and approved. Treasurers Report was presented and approved. At this time group contribu-tions still seem to be lacking even with the attempts to convey the message of self-support and what that means for each group. DCM report – Danny W, gave a report from the last Area 35 committee meet-ing. This report included a request to see how often groups receive calls on their AA hotlines, and what type of calls are received. In Thief River Falls, groups do have a hotline and it reportedly receives a few calls each month; the calls have been for AA information. A report on both the Area Workshop and the West Central Regional Alcohol-ics Anonymous Service Conference was presented to those in attendance. Overall, these events were a great success (this information was also sent out in an email to the other District 2 groups.) The new book: *A Visual History of Alcoholics Anonymous* was discussed and it was suggested that if groups want copies that we should send in a District order to help reduce the Area Literature Chair’s work in getting these orders processed. Some of the groups present stated that attendance is either still low while other groups have seen a return of members equal to pre-Covid times. The District decided to table developing a District website for now as contri-butions from the groups have been low and it would not be sustainable. There was discussion about group contributions. While it is realized that many groups can barely pay rent for their meeting space it is still our obligation to be self-supporting, including all parts of the AA service structure – District, Area, and the General Service Office. AA cannot function to provide the ser-vices we all expect without adequate funding. And for that we are all responsi-ble. The upcoming Spring Assembly will be held April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> via Zoom, and call-in information was sent out encouraging members to attend this important event. DCM also informed that now that the new records system is in place our Area Records person, Sally L., has the ability to update group information bypass-ing the need to wait for GSO. This will speed up any needed corrections con-siderably. It is important that if any group changes are needed, they should be sent to your DCM who will forward them to Sally. The DCMs also have the ability now to log into the record’s system with viewing privileges to see group information. Jim S., Area 35 Delegate, was in attendance and participated in the discussion of the General Service Conference agenda items that were sent out. There was good discussion on many of the agenda items. 2021 Fall Assembly – will be in Fergus Falls with the location still being worked out. Next District 2 meeting will be held at 2 PM, May 9<sup>th</sup> in Thief River Falls at the Twin Rivers Clubhouse. Meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer. In service, Danny W.

“The actual experience of turning myself inside out for the first time in the pres-ence of an AA member left me drained and numb; but when feeling started to come back, I found that I had changed. For the first time in my AA experience, I could feel the sunshine of God’s love on my wounds, and true peace of mind.”

*“Finding Self-Forgiveness,” Memphis, Tennessee, October 1977, Step By Step: Real AAs, Real Recovery*



AREA OFFICERS & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS

DISTRICT 15 – Lori L

Hello from District 15. My name is Lori and I am a grateful member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

At the beginning of April Jim S, attended our District meeting and provided us with details of the agenda items of the General Service Conference. We had a lot of good discussion. Jim explained the many items that were up for revision in our literature, policies and public information. A theme seemed to be occurring while we were in discussion. Change has to be better, right? We have to keep moving forward and improve what we were given by Bill W. We have to change with the times. But we do not want the change to compromise what Bill W and Dr. Bob set out to accomplish..

I love reading about Nell Wing, who was Bill W’s assistant. She tells a story about how she, Bill and Lois went on a walk one day. She and Lois were distracted by a certain species of flower next to the path. As she and Lois stopped to examine the flower, Bill continued on, trudging up the path, leaning forward with his hands behind his back as he always walked. Nell saw it as a symbol. She and Lois were attracted to things of the earth. Bill was way ahead of them, in distance and in understanding of alcoholics. In the past year, there has been lots of distractions in the world - Covid, politics, rioting. It is so easy to become distracted from our primary purpose. But we cannot do that or we will lose our primary focus of AA. I want to be a Bill W in all of this.

I want to keep following the same path that he set down for us because it works.

TREATMENT – Melissa M – (no report)

DISTRICT 13 – Denise R

Greetings from District 13! Our District has held 4 different meetings from March 1<sup>st</sup> to April 5th. Two being regular district meetings and 2 special meetings to discuss agenda items. We met in a hybrid format and all were well attended! I am so grateful for the involvement of new and seasoned GSR’s and Committee Chairs that were in attendance. We have had some wonderful discussions and have learned much! A special thank you to our Delegate Jim and Alt Delegate Steve for taking the time to host the 2 meetings for the Agenda Items. Your time and dedication to us has been amazing! Also thank you Justin for attending, your input is always much appreciated! I feel fortunate that we have so many trusted servants Past and Present in our District and I have relied on them all many times during this process. Thank you all for your service and dedication!!

At our last meeting we found there were many GSR’s that have not received their GSR packets from last year or their Northern Light so we need to verify our information and make sure our GSR’s are connected.

Our Webmaster Chad has been busy making changes to our new website. We recently changed our URL to aastcloud.org instead of district13.org so it will hopefully be easier to find AA in our district. We are also working on adding a link for online contributions.

We did hold a Phone Line training and had problems with our Zoom connection so it was not well attended and will be rescheduled. We did discuss what types of calls the phone line is receiving and how many we get per month, so we will be looking at that to see what the need is?

Our Finances are solid with a balance of \$3,071.41 with \$1,000 of that being a prudent reserve and we continue to receive contributions.

At our next meeting we will be discussing when we do have our Delegate’s report back and will check with District 15 to see if they want to meet together like we have done in the past.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Denise R.

DISTRICT 18 – Scott S– (no report)

ARCHIVIST – no one at this time

ARCHIVES – Peter T – (no report)

DISTRICT 16 – Katy P

Hello from District 16. My name is Katy, I am an alcoholic serving as DCM for District 16.

We continue to have meetings opening to allow more attendance, following the facilities' guidelines. Most of our groups are still quite small, but some have actually grown. We are planning to continue hybrid meetings for our District meeting, so we did purchase the upgraded zoom account.

I attended the West Central Regional Service Conference held on zoom. It was great to get to see everyone, even if it was on a computer screen.

We had an Agenda Meeting with Jim on March 21 via zoom along with Districts 8, 9 and 3. I appreciate all the information and questions everyone brought to the meeting. It was very informative and cleared up a lot of questions I had regarding the Agenda Items. Thank you to Jim!

After our District Meeting the following week, we were able to spend some time going over the items and answering questions others had.

We have planned our Delegate Report Back for May 8, 2021 at Triumphant Life Church and on zoom.

We are also planning another workshop with District 9 for June 18, 2021 at Triumphant Life Church and on zoom. We have presentations on Literature, Home-groups, Sponsorship and a great speaker planned. I will have the flyer uploaded to Area35.org soon. It would be great to see others from around the Area. I'm hoping more restrictions will be lifted by then so that we can serve coffee and snacks.

We currently have two jail meetings a week happening, one for women and one for men.

Our financials look good.

This has been a very hard time for a lot of people. Zoom has been a life saver for many, and I am thankful for that. I hope to get back to more in person meetings soon and encourage all to get on the phone, text, email, do what it takes to reach out to those suffering, there are many.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Grateful recovering alcoholic, Katy P.

DISTRICT 12 – Shelly H

Greetings from District 12

We are holding steady in our district. We have had some turnover in our District Committees but have had other people step up and volunteer to take over vacancies and for this I am grateful. Thanks to those who have served and to those who have volunteered to take over service positions.

We had our delegate, Jim S, meet with us to discuss the agenda items on April 7<sup>th</sup> via zoom. This was much appreciated and very helpful – thank you Jim!

We are scheduled to go live with the twinportsaa.com website by the end of April. The website committee is working with our intergroup office to keep up with current group status and meeting times. I am grateful that we were able to use the challenge of COVID to bring this needed resource to our community.

We still have not been able to hold meetings in correctional facilities or bring speakers into treatment centers, although we were able to use surplus funds from the District to provide 2 year grapevine subscriptions to each of the 6 correctional facilities in our district.

We are starting to see a gradual “return to normalcy.” More of our live meetings and all 4 of our clubs are open again. We will be returning to our district meeting place at First Lutheran for the first time since last fall on 4/15. The Duluth Roundup is scheduled to be held September 10-12 at the Holiday inn in Duluth after a 1 year hiatus. Check out Duluthroundup.org for tickets and more information.

I would like to give a personal shout out to those serving at the Area Level. You have all stepped up and done an amazing job during a very difficult time. Maybe it wasn’t always as perfect as you wanted it to be but to step up and go the extra mile to reach out to those of us serving at the district during this challenging time was appreciated more than you’ll ever know.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve, Shelley H.

AREA OFFICERS & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS

**CORRECTIONS – Butch Rolff – (no report)**

**DISTRICT 1 – Laura Cormican – (no report)**

**DISTRICT 11 – Kurt Nygren – (no report)**

**PUBLIC INFORMATION – Greg Cabana – (no report)**

**DISTRICT 7 – Tim Viney**

Hello from District 7 my name is Tim , I am the DCM for District 7. We hold our meetings on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. Our last meeting was March 18th, we held a shorter business meeting because we had the delegate in attendance and he agreed to go through the agenda items with us. There was 10 in attendance, there was a lot of discussion and we were not able to get through the whole agenda. After talking with Jim we agreed to continue the process on Sat. the 27th.

The District finances are staying about even expenses equaling our contributions. Our web site is up and running thanks again for your efforts in getting it going. We are still working on our phone service hopefully we can make some progress. Thank you again Jim for making the extra trip to complete going through the agenda items. Our next meeting will be April 15th at the regular time and place.

Thank you, Tim V.

**DISTRICT 6 – Mike Urman – (no report)**

**GRAPEVINE – Pat Middendorf**

Hi Everyone, I'm your Area 35 Grapevine Representative. We had three in attendance at the Spring Assembly for our committee meeting districts: myself, Districts 13 and District 5. There was a lot of trouble with zoom communications, we were having trouble with the ID number for the zoom meeting. I hope everyone can understand it's human error and hopefully down the road we can meet in person. We have to have some meetings that we are more organized, we have more communication with the committee chairs and officers of Area 35 that these things do not happen anymore.

So what did we do at our committee, well we did not have much time to talk but we did talk about one agenda item and that was the gender neutral removing men and women and putting people in its place. Well there was three of us, three different opinions but what's really great is that when all said and done we have our own opinions but still love and tolerance in our hearts, we still love each other in this program of Alcoholics Anonymous. And that's one of the greatest things of being a recovering alcoholic no matter what, we tried to practice principles before personalities.

I would like to reach out and talk about what I heard at the conference. I heard that the subscriptions to the Grapevine magazine were down in 2020 and I find this troublesome because this is one of the greatest things we have in replying today. One of the greatest ways of reaching out to the still suffering alcoholic and so many others. Is this because there are so many in Area 35 that do not realize how much great material GRAPEVINE has and how beneficial it can be used to help to still suffering alcoholic and their family members.

As your Grapevine representative I would love to present on the Grapevine where districts do not have a great friend here our groups, I would like to go and represent where Grapevine might not have been in the last 10 years 20 years. Maybe there's a lot of people out there that need to understand how great this thing can be but how's that going to happen? I will be contacting the districts where I have not done a presentation on Grapevine hopefully I will be invited to the district meeting and present on Grapevine and the Grapevine magazine

Thank you for allowing me to be your Grapevine representative. Yours in service, Pat M.

**DISTRICT 5 – Terry Pitts – (no report)**

**DISTRICT 21 – John Wickner – (no report)**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Delegate Resumes** – Resumes are due June 6th at the Area Committee Meeting. Each district can nominate one person and it would be great to have one from each district in the area.

**Archives Inventory** – Need new facility by end of year. Peter is working on this. Will keep on agenda until we

find a permanent location. Peter: Looking for climate control, only found one and there is a long waiting list. Would prefer Aitkin or close by, maybe Grand Rapids?

**Audio** – Sound Recorder position still open. Will be necessary for Fall Assembly/ June ACM meeting and next rotation.

**District 3 Rezoning** – Is there still an issue that needs to be discussed regarding adjusting boundaries between District 3 & 4? Border meetings can join either district. Tom O: no problem with District 3. Have never heard complaint. We will close this and readdress later if necessary.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Fall Assembly** – October 2 – 3, 2021 at Arrowwood Resort, Alexandria. Will put flier together.

**Motion from District 13:** District 13 would like to make a motion that our Delegate Jim introduce a floor action proposing the original “Ad Hoc Committee Progress Report – Google Grants and the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition” dated March 30, 2020 be immediately released to all members of the 71<sup>st</sup> General Service Conference. We feel strongly that this information is indispensable for the purposes of looking at Google Grants through the lens of our AA Principles. Motion seconded and passed.

**Calendar of Events**

June 6, 2021 – Area Committee Meeting. Format/location to be determined.  
October 2 – 3, 2021 – Fall Assembly, Alexandria  
Motion to adjourn followed by responsibility statement.



GSR SHARING SESSION REPORT

This GSR group sharing session consisted of many General Service Representatives (GSR) meeting in a Zoom Breakout Room during the 2021 Spring Assembly. Many of us GSR’s are new to service but luckily not all, some seasoned in attendance as well. The session had good questions and lively discussion. I am happy to report the following:

Session one

- How to determine which agenda items or district meeting items to share with our home groups?
- Sharing General Service Conference agenda information available on the Area35 webpage by providing password information to members for individual review.
- Inviting the Area Delegate to present agenda items at the District meeting.
- Posting the agenda items in summary format in the AA meeting room with GSR contact information for those that have questions or comments on agenda items.
- Topics of importance as it relates to the General Service Conference agenda will vary from group-to-group so you share what you think your group will be interested in.
- Bring back from District meetings the most talked about topics.
- Attend additional events like the West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference and bring back information presented on the Assembly agenda items at the different Committee meetings, this year Zoom format provided extremely limited access to Committee meetings but hopefully, that will be better next year.
- At the District meetings, the committee members provide the majority of what is taken back to the home group.

- How to give our group conscience at the assembly when we don’t have the opportunity to bring “it” the topic or question to the group?
- Service manual concept three in the “Right of Decision” ... an example being the coffee maker gets the right of decision over the coffee brand or in the case of the Area using money to host the Spring Assembly on Zoom.
- The “Right of Decision” to choose the better for the group based on experience with the group.
- We can choose not to vote or have an opinion and take the item in question back to the group for discussion.

- What are the key components or ideas you take back to your group after District meetings?
- A GSR group meeting report template was introduced by Debbie P. GSR from District 12 that she is willing to share. The report template includes an introduction, when the next meeting is, where it will be address or Zoom info), what’s happening in the District, Area, Committee’s, GSO, information about events, areas where the homegroup can be involved as a group service opportunities. Items we as a group should possibly review and provide an opinion on.
- In relationship to the Spring Assembly and agenda items: One: It’s a two-way communication bringing information back to the homegroup from District meetings and from the homegroup to the District. Two: It is also reaching out to the Delegate for information, requesting additional information for the homegroup, to set dates for special business and District meetings so items determined to be important and can be addressed, so we as GSR’s know our group conscience.
- Opportunities that have presented themselves to groups lately include calling from the phone list to check on members who have not been in attendance since the pandemic, also asking those members if they’d like to be added to the Northern Light mailing list.
- GSR’s What do you wish you would have known when you started?
- If there’s group division over an issue, stepping back from the disagreement and going with the group majority .
- Get an alternate GSR, it’s a two-year commitment and you might need someone to help attend the District meeting, event or to run a home group business/group conscience meeting.
- Some groups refer to it as a business meeting, others a group conscience, most groups meet before or after regular A.A. meetings
- Getting people to attend the business meeting by making it attractive, giving members the next meeting time and date, meeting location, zoom information during the regular meeting, brief members on what will be discussed.

Session two continued the previous discussion and the following

- After an assembly, if we are upset or frustrated by the assembly experience what do we bring back to our group vs bring it to our sponsor?
- We bring our best to the group sharing the information we received
- Bring the concerns, worries, anger, and fears to our sponsor .
- You bring information back to your group.
- You can bring back the opinions shared at the assembly, how opinions were swayed, what happened to the group.
- We are surrounded by passionate people who want AA to be there for all who might need it, and it’s the responsibility we have to help AA in Service by sharing the information with our groups.
- Patience and tolerance are our code, a GSR reflection on personal reactions to attending this year’s assembly vs. last year “how much better it is”.

Second session comment: Would have preferred the polling questions be written out in plain English so that the yes/no response being selected would have been clear when giving our group conscience.

Greetings From District 11

Well, it seems as if things are gradually making their way back to a more normal footing in this time of pandemic. Attendance at in-person meetings in District 11 is still down but growing. Zoom meetings continue. The big news over the winter was the beginning of our website at [district11online.org](http://district11online.org). It has a familiar look compared with other district websites. We have AA pamphlet links right on the home page so you don’t have to “navigate” to get to them. District Announcements and links to meetings including online “Zoom” meetings are right on the home page as well. We feel the website in this digital world of ours- is a critical piece in connecting district AAs to AA messaging and resources-especially at the critical moment that help is desired and needed. We also recognize that substantial numbers of people don’t interact online and that sufficient attention must be given to these members and potential AA members. District finances are adequate for now, but have not yet returned to pre-covid levels. I am just now getting out to visit meetings which I hadn’t given attention to before, and that is very fulfilling just on the level of staying sober. We had communicated with the district about General Service Conference agenda items and had a great discussion one night on these items so that I could provide input to Jim S., our area delegate, at the Area Assembly. He is coming to report on his experiences at the General Service Conference at our District Meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup>. May we ALL do our very best-going the extra mile- to really pay attention to what is going on “out there” and be diligent about carrying the AA message to the alcoholic who still suffers at this time when they may have become disconnected during the pandemic.  
Yours In Service  
Kurt N. [district11online.org](http://district11online.org)

Area 35 Group Records Report

May 1, 2021  
Greetings, Area 35.  
I will be attending a sharing session on May 6<sup>th</sup> hosted by GSO Records. They want to hear from registrars on how to improve Fellowship Connection. I look forward to hearing ideas on what we can do to better serve the groups. I continue to make changes as they come in. I am also updating the Northern Light mailing list. If you know of anyone who wants to be added to the list, have them send me their mailing address.  
Many groups are going back to meeting in person. Please let me know of any changes in your group’s meeting status so I can update [aaminnesota.org](http://aaminnesota.org) to stay as current as possible.  
If your district has launched a district web page, please send me the address so I can add it to [aaminnesota.org](http://aaminnesota.org). The more ways we have to get information to people, the better.  
Thank you for allowing me to serve.  
In service,  
Sally L  
Area 35 Group Records Secretary  
[grouprecords@area35.org](mailto:grouprecords@area35.org)

Area Chair Report,

As we get closer to SEEING each other I am closely watching the governors guidelines. I am so looking forward to being together..  
I have not received any Delegate Resumes, but it's only May 1st.. Please get those to me by June 6th..  
Since we will be meeting again, I will be actively looking for a Audio/Sound chair for the remainder of this rotation. I now have all the equipment.  
I've send Heidi the Fall assembly information to make a flyer, I will be asking District 4 to host us. In June I will let you know where the Spring and Fall Assemblies will be in 2022.. Zone IV for Spring and Zone I for Fall..  
  
I look forward to hearing Jim's Delegate report, and seeing you in June..  
Thank you for allowing me to serve.. Gayle R.

“Every recovery, though it may go unnoticed, improves the world in some way.”

“Why I Keep Coming Back,”  
Toledo, Ohio, May 2001, Voices of Long-Term Sobriety



THE WORK CONTINUES...

Good Evening Everyone,

Holy cow where to begin. Well, it has been once heck of a ride this past couple of months. After the Spring Assembly I attended the General Service Conference from April 17<sup>th</sup> through the 24<sup>th</sup>. 8 days on zoom was a long week + one. I am pleased to say that we got through all the new business for this year and all the old business from last year. I won't go into any of the business from the conference as I will do that in my delegate's report. What I will talk on is the experience I had with it. It was a double edged sword, as I didn't mind not having to travel to New York for the conference and of course the commute to my office wasn't too bad since it is right off of my living room. Being on zoom for 8 plus hours a day and the last day Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> we started at 10am in the morning and I logged off at 12:45am that night. So what all happened? Saturday we had a several meetings, one was the 1278, which is 12 x 12 x 12, then the remote communities meetings and finally we ended with a delegate's only meeting. Sunday we had board report meetings all until around dinner time when we started in on our committee meetings. I am on the agenda committee, which our main responsibility is to come up with the Theme, presentation and workshop topics for next year. These items are what the annual service workshop and any regional forums that occur are centered around. Monday morning the Regional trustees election caucus meetings started for a couple different regions then ours so I had that off as I could not participate in that. Monday afternoon we had a financial report from Leslie Backus our treasurer for GSO. I will have Thomas upload the financial report to area35.org for you to review. I will also address it in my delegate's report as well. Monday night I participated in the Trustee at Large caucus meetings where we elected one nominee for the West Central Region to our pick for trustee at large. Libbe from Montana ended up being our pick. Tuesday morning we were back in committee meetings and that afternoon we were in workshops and that evening we had another Delegate's meeting. Wednesday was election day and secondary committee meetings which I was not on a secondary committee so I had the afternoon off and then that evening we started in on committee reports and a sharing session. Thursday we were back to committee reports and presentations for the afternoon. That was supposed to be a short day, but the reality of how much time we were taking for committee reports started to set in. So instead of being done 8pm we weren't done until 9pm. Come Friday everyone knew we were fairly behind in our work load so the two presentations for that day were canceled and we got down to more committee reports. I don't think we were done until around 10pm that night. The staff at GSO say we were still pretty far behind so instead of our schedule being from 11am to 4 pm, we started at 10am and as I mentioned earlier in the report I logged off at 12:45am that night. While there was no doubt we had to hold the conference by Zoom this year due to the expense of what a safe in person conference would cost, the difficulty of Zoom for that long took its toll on me as we took very few breaks, mainly 15 or 30 minutes with a one 1 hour break each day so there wasn't any time to physically go see anyone. Fortunately, my fiancé was a good sport about the whole thing and we went out to eat around 9pm a couple times even though she gets up at 5:15 a.m. to go to work. So I have many thanks to her. I especially want to thank Area 35 for bestowing this great honor on me. This was truly a great experience and I can't wait to share it with you over the course of the summer.

In Service  
Jim S. Area 35 Delegate

Howdy Ladies and Gentlemen,

Ready for a new dawn? With the availability of vaccines and new therapeutics for treating covid-19, restrictions are being lifted and we can begin to mingle again. Since the Spring Assembly things have been pretty quiet. I have the workshop location and date January 15-16, 2022, at the Holiday Inn in Detroit Lakes booked. Now the fun part begins, picking the topics of discussion and letting the Districts know what topic they have. Unfortunately, we have been an estranged fellowship this rotation. Only because we haven't had the personal interactions. The before and after meeting in the hall discussions. The breakfast, lunch and dinner exchanges. The personal fellowship has been lacking. The hugs and handshakes. The Program and Principles of Alcoholics Anonymous has survived and in some instances flourished. Because of the lack of personal interaction picking people to stand for action committee chairs and Area officers is made a little more difficult.

NOW is the time to ask people in your District and Home groups if they are willing to stand and do these very important responsibilities for AA. I know spring has just sprung having said that, October is right around the corner and we are in the last six months of our rotation.

I'm not talking about just the Area here. Districts are struggling to get people willing to take on the Districts DCM and District Offices and Committee Chairs. It's the number one topic through the years in DCM and GSR sharing sessions - how to get more people involved.

We have our challenges and I believe we can meet these challenges and continue to flourish. Besides, usually the best qualified are when the position chooses you , not when you choose the position.

Steven L  
Area 35  
Alt-Delegate

I WILL SURVIVE...April 24

Morning Everyone,

As I recall from past Delegate's they usually send out some cards letting people know how the conference is going and expressing their appreciation. Since I am not in NY but at my house I didn't do that last year but I thought I would this year. This year's schedule was from last Saturday through the end of today. As most of you know I am rather out going so being on a zoom meeting this entire time has had it's challenges for me. Our day usually start around 11am or 10am and has ended anywhere from 8pm to 10:30pm each night which is very contrary to how I normally spend my days. The good part about this is that I have been exposed to a wonderful experience in meeting new people, hearing perspectives on these agenda items I had not thought of before. I am humbled at the level understanding some people have and their ideas they come up with. It truly drives home the idea that no one person is smarter then the group. I am looking forward to seeing you all this June at the ACM and for those that want to set up Delegate's report now would be a good time to start doing that. A couple districts have already set dates for theirs. I am available for in person, zoom or hybrid whichever your district would like.

In Service  
Jim S.  
Delegate

“Good things increase in direct proportion to my willingness to become teachable.”

“Freedom Began in Prison,” Universal City, California, February 1970, AA Grapevine

Hi Everyone

I had the pleasure to be part of District 11's agenda items review. What a wonderful experience! Some of the items had little discussion, but some had lots of discussion. Opinions varied from yes agreed to absolutely not. The best part was we all allowed our voices to be heard and walked away still respecting each person. I wish our society could do the same. Wouldn't it be a much better world.

I also got to be part of the website development team for District 11. We started with District 4's web page and added to make it our own. Tested and talked amongst ourselves to make a dream a reality. It launched in early April and it a great resource for the recovery community in East Central Minnesota.

In service,

Cindy S-K

## Archives Quiz By Peter T - Archives Chair (Questions ob- tained from the book, Alcohol- ics Anonymous Comes of Age)

1. What room did Sister Ignatia put Dr. Bob's first candidate for admission at St Thomas Hospital? A. A ward room B. A private room C. The flower room
2. New Jersey's first Alcoholics Anonymous meeting was held where? A. At the house of Henry P. B. At the house of Bob and Mag V. C. At the house of Albert Scott.
3. What city was Alcoholics Anonymous first group to be formed solely by mail? A. Toronto, Canada B. Vancouver, B.C. C. Little Rock, Arkansas
4. In 1947, Bob B. a Canadian mining engineer travel abroad and met up with Bill H. a greengrocer and form an Alcoholics Anonymous in what City? A. London B. Dublin C. Glasgow
5. Who was the first example of where spirituality and money began to mix in the chapter SERVICE: THE THIRD LEGACY ? A. Dr, Bob. B. Ebby C. T. Henry and Clarence Williams
6. Who wrote the inspiring article "The Ego Factor in the Surrender of Alcoholism" ? A. Dr. Silkworth B. Dr. Tiebout C. Dr. Collier
7. An Alcoholics Anonymous member first appeared on air with Gabriel Heater's program in what year? A. 1937 B. 1938 C. 1939
8. In what year did Father Dowling write the First Catholic Recommendation of Alcoholics Anonymous that we have any knowledge? A. 1938 B. 1939 C. 1940
9. A monthly publication called "The Grapevine" was started in New York City in what year? A. 1944 B. 1945 C. 1946
10. In what year did Earl T. show up at Bill W's house and together redrafted the Twelve Traditions from long form to the Twelve Traditions as they are today? A. 1945 B. 1947 C. 1949

## **ATTENTION!!** **ARCHIVES** **Needs to find** **a new home!**

Anyone know of a  
place that  
Area35

Can rent?

Our Needs are  
about 300 to 400  
square ft.

of climate con-  
trolled space.

Peter T

Area 35 Archives  
Chair

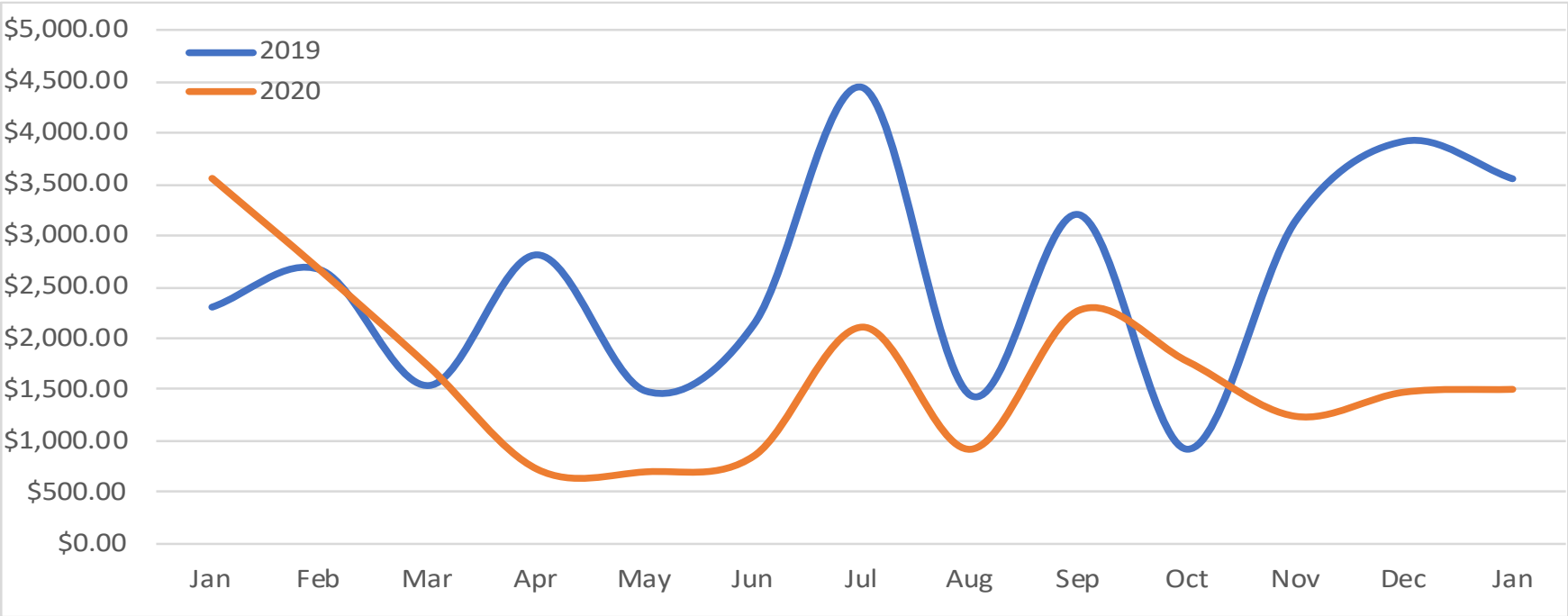
My contacts are

Email: [ar-  
chives@area35.or](mailto:archives@area35.org)

g

Phone:

Or in person at



	End of P2 March 31,2020	End of P3 June 13,2020
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
1000 · Area 35 Checking Account	12,354.71	12,686.37
1100 · Savings - Prudent Reserve	6,048.97	6,049.07
Total Checking/Savings	18,403.68	18,735.44
Total Current Assets	150.00	30.00
TOTAL ASSETS	18,553.68	18,765.44
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	18,553.68	18,765.44
Equity		
3000 · Opening Bal Equity	26,757.19	26,757.19
Net Income	(8,203.51)	(7,991.75)
Total Equity	18,553.68	18,765.44
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	18,553.68	18,765.44

	End of P6 November 30,2020	End of P7 December 31,2020
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
1000 · Area 35 Checking Account	11,055.62	11,257.97
1100 · Savings - Prudent Reserve	6,049.38	6,049.43
Total Checking/Savings	17,105.00	17,307.40
Other Current Assets	140.00	1,418.12
Total Current Assets	17,245.00	18,725.52
TOTAL ASSETS	17,245.00	18,725.52
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Equity		
3000 · Opening Bal Equity	26,757.19	26,757.19
Net Income	(9,512.19)	(8,031.67)
Total Equity	17,245.00	18,725.52
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	17,245.00	18,725.52



	<u>Feb 16 - Mar 31, 21</u>	<u>Jan - Mar 21</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
146992 · 102471 Early Monday Group	100.00	100.00		
4000 · Group Contributions				
4000-01 · District 01 Contributions				
676989 · 104920-Fosston Thursday Night	<u>0.00</u>	<u>150.00</u>		
Total 4000-01 · District 01 Contributions	0.00	150.00		
4000-02 · District 02 Contributions				
716253 · 10884-TRF Twin Rivers Recovery	<u>0.00</u>	<u>25.00</u>		
Total 4000-02 · District 02 Contributions	0.00	25.00		
4000-03 · District 03 Contributions				
107702 · 104860-The Formers Group	0.00	50.00		
119323 · 103393-Erhard Group	<u>100.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>		
Total 4000-03 · District 03 Contributions	100.00	150.00		
4000-04 · District 04 Contributions				
107752 · 13822-Glenwood Tuesday Night	0.00	40.00		
637112 · 26999-Wed 7pm Non Smokers	50.00	100.00		
647047 · 84237-Sun Night 630 12 & 12	0.00	20.00		
663819 · 104638-Womens 12 X 12 Group	0.00	25.00		
672997 · 103511-Evansville AA	0.00	100.00		
690185 · 62983-Sat 10am BB Study Grp	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>		
Total 4000-04 · District 04 Contributions	50.00	335.00		
4000-05 · District 05 Contributions				
117918 · 95029-Becker Group	25.00	75.00		
145149 · Squad 10 Elk River	0.00	20.00		
704281 · 5616-The Way Out Group	<u>0.00</u>	<u>150.00</u>		
Total 4000-05 · District 05 Contributions	25.00	245.00		
4000-06 · District 06 Contributions				
107656 · 95486-Bethel Community Group	0.00	20.00		
107681 · 97742-Cambridge Community Group	30.00	30.00		
122300 · 14065-Tues Night AA Isanti	0.00	12.50		
124462 · 77760-Squad 3 Isanti Thurs	0.00	44.56		
132584 · 58560-Rock Creek Wed AA	0.00	60.00		
140016 · 85613-Fri AM AA North Branch	0.00	15.00		
142131 · 90338-Forest Lake 12X12 Study	0.00	10.00		
171884 · 17191-Unity AA	30.00	30.00		
672898 · 70426-Simple Not Easy BB Group	60.00	60.00		
684775 · 91822-A Woman's Way Group	25.00	50.00		
684788 · 26582-Wed Nite AA 6 PM	0.00	15.00		
DLYRPR · Daily Reprieve Group	<u>40.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>		
Total 4000-06 · District 06 Contributions	185.00	447.06		
4000-07 · District 07 Contributions				
107749 · 106946-Mon Garrison Group	0.00	100.00		
123531 · 71823-Sleepy Hollow Group	50.00	50.00		
609161 · 39348-Wednesday Woman's Work	0.00	28.10		
642096 · 90198-11th Step Group	75.00	75.00		
648541 · 99843-Our Common Welfare	0.00	100.00		
699168 · 23087 Mille Lacs Prim Purpose	0.00	100.00		
710094 · 73044 Sober Sailors Group	25.00	25.00		
727272 · 223629 Design For Living Group	<u>100.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>		
Total 4000-07 · District 07 Contributions	250.00	578.10		
4000-08 · District 08 Contributions				
107486 · 96157 Biwabik Sun Night Group	175.00	175.00		
107553 · 94034-Aurora Big Book	50.00	75.00		
107970 · 106181 Virginia Fri Nite Open	0.00	100.00		
142087 · 84297-Cook Sun. Night Big Book	0.00	58.00		
171078 · 25414 Ely Monday Womens	0.00	39.90		
716110 · 6836 Lake Vermillion 12x12	<u>0.00</u>	<u>60.00</u>		
Total 4000-08 · District 08 Contributions	225.00	507.90		

4000-09 · District 09 Contributions				
107764 · 110172-Hibbing Downtown Group	0.00	30.00		
107765 · 13824 Tues 8PM Hibbing Alano	20.00	50.00		
107861 · Nashwauk Fri. Nite Group	84.00	84.00		
121039 · 42543 Zim Group	0.00	50.00		
128162 · 83295 Sunday 12x12 Step Group	0.00	30.00		
138250 · 110174 Hibbing Sat Morning	25.00	25.00		
634677 · Happy Hour 6 pm Hibbing	25.00	25.00		
677065 · 64685-Keep It Simple Hibbing	0.00	20.00		
694149 · 12541 Tues Afternoon Hibbing	50.00	50.00		
719309 · 8471-Hibbing Thursday Noon Grp	20.00	40.00		
Total 4000-09 · District 09 Contributions	224.00	404.00		
4000-11 · District 11 Contributions				
107885 · 49354 Pine City AA Group	50.00	50.00		
173665 · 24312 Saturday Sobriety Group	50.00	50.00		
603818 · 104296 Finlayson Wed Night	0.00	50.00		
724683 · 19974 Moose Lake Vision of Hope	0.00	8.50		
Total 4000-11 · District 11 Contributions	100.00	158.50		
4000-12 · District 12 Contributions				
127270 · 94477 Back to Basics	0.00	25.00		
132613 · 67747 Serenity Club Inc.	45.00	135.00		
133564 · 9922 Lester Park Thursday BB	0.00	100.00		
167706 · Proctor AA Group	0.00	40.00		
695769 · 13560 Grand Marais Tue Night	15.00	15.00		
Total 4000-12 · District 12 Contributions	60.00	315.00		
4000-13 · District 13 Contributions				
107580 · 102570 Early Evening Group (Tue)	30.00	30.00		
107601 · 6564 Thurs Candlelight Group	150.00	150.00		
107914 · 8507 Primary Purpose Grp	100.00	150.00		
120679 · 30646 West End 12 Step Group	200.00	200.00		
123219 · 105732 Fri Living Sober Grp	75.00	75.00		
139018 · 42404 Older Adult Group	40.00	40.00		
146877 · 102573 Early Wed. Night	0.00	75.00		
603252 · 6024 There is a Solution	0.00	25.00		
670436 · 37950 Wmns Willingness to Grow	50.00	50.00		
Total 4000-13 · District 13 Contributions	645.00	795.00		
4000-15 · District 15 Contributions				
718858 · 19361 Back 2 Basics	0.00	50.00		
721677 · 7385 Thursday Night BB Grp	75.00	75.00		
Total 4000-15 · District 15 Contributions	75.00	125.00		
4000-16 · District 16 Contributions				
616207 · 7371 Thurs. Night BB Study	80.00	80.00		
Total 4000-16 · District 16 Contributions	80.00	80.00		
4000-17 · District 17 Contributions	66.65	66.65		
4000-18 · District 18 Contributions				
107722 · 102265 Eagle Bend AA	0.00	100.00		
107787 · 14377 Long Prairie Alano	50.00	50.00		
Total 4000-18 · District 18 Contributions	50.00	150.00		
4000-21 · District 21 Contributions				
139141 · 76830 Spiritual Awareness Group	0.00	165.00		
145909 · 38031 Nooners AA Group	0.00	120.00		
158263 · 82268 Straight-Talk Group	40.00	40.00		
662565 · 13687 Living Sober Group	30.00	30.00		
663310 · 77955 Squaw Lake Tues	50.00	50.00		
Total 4000-21 · District 21 Contributions	120.00	405.00		
4000 · Group Contributions - Other	105.00	130.00	6,378.00	25,512.00
Total 4000 · Group Contributions	2,360.65	5,067.21	6,378.00	25,512.00
4710 · AAWS Literature Sales	688.20	1,341.70		
4800 · Interest on Deposits	0.09	0.14		
Total Income	3,148.94	6,509.05	6,378.00	25,512.00
Gross Profit	3,148.94	6,509.05	6,378.00	25,512.00

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.*

Expense				
5100 · Committee Meeting Rent	0.00	0.00	50.00	200.00
5125 · AAWS Literature Inventory	673.10	673.10		
5200 · Service Workshop				
5201 · Coffee	0.00	0.00	150.00	150.00
5202 · Printing	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
5203 · Room Rental	0.00	0.00	886.00	886.00
5204 · Speaker Expenses	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>430.00</u>	<u>430.00</u>
Total 5200 · Service Workshop	0.00	0.00	1,516.00	1,516.00
5300 · Spring Assembly				
5301 · Room Rental	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,700.00
5302 · Coffee	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>
Total 5300 · Spring Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,200.00
5360 · State Fair	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
5400 · Fall Assembly				
5401 · Room Rental Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,900.00
5402 · Coffee	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>
Total 5400 · Fall Assembly	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,400.00
6550 · Finance Oversight Committee				
6550-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	14.00	56.00
6550-02 · Travel	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>40.00</u>	<u>160.00</u>
Total 6550 · Finance Oversight Committee	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>54.00</u>	<u>216.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>673.10</u>	<u>673.10</u>	<u>1,620.00</u>	<u>7,032.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	2,475.84	5,835.95	4,758.00	18,480.00
Other Income/Expense				
Other Expense				
6100 · Delegate				
6100-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	257.00	438.00
6100-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	199.81	1,196.74
6100-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	600.00	1,500.00
6100-05 · Supplies	0.00	0.00	25.00	50.00
6100-06 · Printing	0.00	0.00	900.00	1,200.00
6100-08 · Other	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>25.00</u>	<u>1,825.00</u>
Total 6100 · Delegate	0.00	0.00	2,006.81	6,209.74
6200 · Alternate Delegate				
6200-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	402.00	728.00
6200-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	365.00	1,305.00
6200-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	650.00	1,170.00
6200-05 · Supplies	0.00	0.00	150.00	150.00
6200-06 · Printing	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
6200-08 · Other	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>
Total 6200 · Alternate Delegate	0.00	0.00	1,647.00	3,433.00
6300 · Chairperson				
6300-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	152.00	348.00
6300-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	122.00	493.00
6300-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	300.00	720.00
6300-05 · Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
6300-06 · Printing	0.00	0.00	35.00	375.00
6300-08 · Other	0.00	0.00	25.00	25.00
6300-09 · Phone/Web Subscriptions	<u>16.09</u>	<u>48.27</u>	<u>48.27</u>	<u>193.08</u>
Total 6300 · Chairperson	16.09	48.27	682.27	2,204.08
6400 · Secretary				
6400-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	187.00	408.00
6400-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	180.00	400.00
6400-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	405.00	855.00
6400-06 · Printing	0.00	0.00	800.00	820.00
6400-08 · Other	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>25.00</u>	<u>25.00</u>
Total 6400 · Secretary	0.00	0.00	1,597.00	2,508.00
6500 · Treasurer				
6500-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	193.00	570.00
6500-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	196.03	616.98
6500-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	300.00	900.00
6500-05 · Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	319.95
6500-07 · Postage	0.00	0.00	0.00	240.00
6500-08 · Other	<u>0.00</u>	<u>40.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>
Total 6500 · Treasurer	0.00	40.00	719.03	2,676.93



7000 · Archives Chair				
7000-01 · Meals	0.00	-7.00	87.00	283.00
7000-02 · Travel	0.00	-8.00	145.00	320.00
7000-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	280.00	950.00
7000-06 · Printing	0.00	0.00	10.00	40.00
7000-08 · Other	50.00	50.00	25.00	25.00
7000-09 · Phone/Web Subscriptions	<u>16.13</u>	<u>32.26</u>		
Total 7000 · Archives Chair	66.13	67.26	547.00	1,618.00
7100 · Archivist				
7100-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	139.50	318.00
7100-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	332.50	800.00
7100-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	560.00	1,120.00
7100-05 · Supplies	0.00	0.00	37.50	150.00
7100-08 · Other	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>180.00</u>	<u>630.00</u>
Total 7100 · Archivist	0.00	100.00	1,249.50	3,018.00
7200 · Corrections				
7200-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	167.00	368.00
7200-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	205.00	340.00
7200-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	450.00	750.00
7200-08 · Other	0.00	0.00	30.00	60.00
7200-09 · Phone/Web Subscriptions	<u>16.09</u>	<u>32.18</u>	<u>48.27</u>	<u>193.08</u>
Total 7200 · Corrections	16.09	32.18	900.27	1,711.08
7300 · CPC				
7300-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	77.00	143.00
7300-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	255.00	490.00
7300-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
7300-08 · Other	0.00	0.00	30.00	30.00
7300-09 · Phone/Web Subscriptions	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>48.27</u>	<u>193.08</u>
Total 7300 · CPC	0.00	0.00	660.27	1,106.08
7400 · Grapevine				
7400-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	127.00	298.00
7400-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	310.00	710.00
7400-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	600.00	1,500.00
7400-05 · Supplies	0.00	0.00	60.00	180.00
7400-08 · Other	0.00	0.00	30.00	30.00
7400-09 · Phone/Web Subscriptions	<u>80.45</u>	<u>80.45</u>	<u>48.27</u>	<u>193.08</u>
Total 7400 · Grapevine	80.45	80.45	1,175.27	2,911.08
7500 · Group Records Secretary				
7500-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	287.00	468.00
7500-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	70.00	130.00
7500-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	460.00	760.00
7500-05 · Supplies	0.00	0.00	10.00	30.00
7500-06 · Printing	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
7500-07 · Postage	0.00	0.00	3.75	22.50
7500-08 · Other	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>	<u>45.00</u>
Total 7500 · Group Records Secretary	0.00	0.00	860.75	1,505.50
7600 · Literature				
7600-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	107.00	328.00
7600-02 · Travel	30.29	30.29	62.00	218.00
7600-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	300.00	860.00
7600-08 · Other	0.00	0.00	15.00	15.00
7600-09 · Phone/Web Subscriptions	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>48.27</u>	<u>193.08</u>
Total 7600 · Literature	30.29	30.29	532.27	1,614.08
7700 · Northern Light				
7700-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	287.00	548.00
7700-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	210.31	358.77
7700-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	450.00	900.00
7700-06 · Printing	356.00	762.00	375.00	2,250.00
7700-07 · Postage	353.13	689.34	300.00	1,800.00
7700-08 · Other	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>
Total 7700 · Northern Light	709.13	1,451.34	1,652.31	5,886.77
7800 · Public Information				
7800-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	167.00	308.00
7800-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	305.00	773.00
7800-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	420.00	700.00
7800-05 · Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
7800-08 · Other	0.00	0.00	30.00	30.00
7800-09 · Phone/Web Subscriptions	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>48.27</u>	<u>193.08</u>
Total 7800 · Public Information	0.00	0.00	970.27	2,304.08

7900 · Treatment				
7900-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	127.00	298.00
7900-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	310.00	710.00
7900-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	600.00	1,500.00
7900-06 · Printing	0.00	0.00	20.00	100.00
7900-08 · Other	0.00	0.00	30.00	30.00
7900-09 · Phone/Web Subscriptions	<u>16.06</u>	<u>32.12</u>	<u>48.27</u>	<u>193.08</u>
Total 7900 · Treatment	16.06	32.12	1,135.27	2,831.08
7950 · Webmaster				
7950-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	217.00	378.00
7950-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	165.00	284.00
7950-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	600.00	1,200.00
7950-06 · Printing	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
7950-08 · Other	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>230.00</u>	<u>230.00</u>
Total 7950 · Webmaster	0.00	0.00	1,212.00	2,117.00
8000 · Web Technology				
8000-08 · Software Products	<u>0.00</u>	<u>119.40</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total 8000 · Web Technology	0.00	119.40	0.00	0.00
8050 · Audio Technician				
8050-01 · Meals	0.00	0.00	37.00	118.00
8050-02 · Travel	0.00	0.00	50.00	265.00
8050-03 · Lodging	0.00	0.00	450.00	1,350.00
8050-05 · Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
8050-08 · Other	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>15.00</u>	<u>15.00</u>
Total 8050 · Audio Technician	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>552.00</u>	<u>1,948.00</u>
Total Other Expense	<u>934.24</u>	<u>2,001.31</u>	<u>18,099.29</u>	<u>45,602.50</u>
Net Other Income	<u>-934.24</u>	<u>-2,001.31</u>	<u>-18,099.29</u>	<u>-45,602.50</u>
Net Income	<u>1,541.60</u>	<u>3,834.64</u>	<u>-13,341.29</u>	<u>-27,122.50</u>

“So long as there is the slightest interest in sobriety, the most unmoral, the most antisocial, the most critical alcoholic may gather about him a few kindred spirits and announce to us that a new Alcoholics Anonymous group has been formed. Anti-God, anti-medicine, anti-our recovery program, even anti-each other – these rampant individuals are still an AA Group if they think so!”

*AA Co-Founder, Bill W., July 1946, “The Individual in Relation to AA as a Group”, The Language of the Heart*

Recently an ally of A.A. attended a series of informational meetings about the A.A. program in the St. Cloud area. The report is well written and gives an objective third party endorsement of the program. This article is forwarded with the author's permission.

An Ally of Recovery Investigates Alcoholics Anonymous  
By: McKenna K

I attended four weekly Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) beginner meetings at the Al-Anon Club in Saint Cloud, Minnesota. While participating in these meetings, I learned about the core functions and guidelines of A.A., heard personal stories from members, and gained knowledge about one of the most popular paths to recovery. It should be noted that this account is not written by a person in recovery and is based on the information gained from four, one-hour meetings.

As written in the A.A. 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 for fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorse nor oppose any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety”.*

Prior to attending the beginner meetings, I had very basic knowledge on what Alcoholics Anonymous was. Most of what I knew was the result of attending various trainings that I have participated in since the start of my service term with Recovery Corps and The Recovery Community Network. I went into the meetings with an open mind and the motivation to learn as much as I could in order to do my job to the best of my ability.

Every meeting followed a consistent format. They start with the serenity prayer as well as a moment of silence for the currently suffering alcoholic. Each week the beginners meeting touches on a different topic which rotates over a four weeks period. After the serenity prayer, members take turns reading various pamphlets, handouts and readings. The first couple readings are always the same and include the statement of anonymity, what A.A. does and does not do, as well as a brief description of the 24-hour plan. These are repeated because they are some of the core ideas of A.A. The focus on what A.A. does and does not do is particularly interesting, especially because it is read at every meeting.

Another important factor that is consistently discussed at the beginners' meetings is the 24-hour plan. This is an effective tool that many recovery services emphasize despite having various names for it. According to A.A. literature, *“We concentrate on keeping sober just the current twenty-four hours. We simply try to get through one day at a time without a drink. If we feel the urge for a drink, we neither yield nor resist. We merely put off taking that particular drink until tomorrow”.* This concept is well known even to those not associated with Alcoholics Anonymous and is usually summarized by the statement “one day at a time”.

The other two extremely important factors of A.A. are the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. It is important to note that these are the guidelines in which every member must go through to become sober. Both the traditions and steps have been created by people who have tested them and were successful in achieving sobriety through these means. As written in many A.A. literature, “... members who make an earnest effort to follow these Steps and apply them in daily living seem to get far more out of A. A. than do those members who seem to regard the Steps casually”. This statement is crucial and was seen in many of the A.A. members I met while attending the meetings.

This brings us to my thoughts and reflections from this assignment. I was initially surprised by how much importance folks put on the 12 Steps and Traditions. The people I met during the meetings were very familiar with what each step entailed and could often quote them word for word. Prior to learning more about A. A., I had heard of the 12 Steps, but I didn't realize how central they truly are to folks achieving recovery through Alcoholics Anonymous. Another surprising factor was how open all of the members were about telling their stories and struggles with substance use disorder. I figured that the focus on anonymity would prevent people from telling their personal stories. I now know that anonymity refers to preventing personal information from leaving the group. This is one of the factors that I believe makes A. A. so successful.

While there are many things that are positive about Alcoholics Anonymous, one area which might be off-putting to a new comer is the emphasis on a “Higher Power”. For those who don't align with a Christian belief system, some of A.A.'s focus on a God “as you understand Him”, might be unsettling. However, A.A. literature tells us that one is free to accept any Higher Power that fits with the individual's belief system.

I understand that there is much more for me to learn when it comes to A.A. and other recovery services. I came into my current position at the beginning of the year with zero to very little knowledge about recovery and substance use disorder. I found myself deciding to serve with Recovery Corps in order to expand my knowledge about something that has affected many people in my life as well as fulfill my passion for helping others. Especially being part of the LGBTQ+ community, I have seen the need for more recovery resources in many facets of my life. I am thankful to now know more about just one of the many resources available to folks wanting to achieve sobriety.

With that said, A.A. has been highly successful and has saved many lives over the past eight decades. While going to these meetings I found that the most influential part of A.A. is the sense of community. Folks who feel alone and are struggling in their lives can go to a neutral space where they will be supported and understood. This might even be the only place where they can find comfort and support. People with substance use disorders can find support, free of charge, and meet others who have been exactly where they are. The only way that recovery can happen is if people talk about it and A.A. provides a space for something that is still so taboo in our society to come into the light.

Kind Regards,

MK



UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

\*See area35.org for printable flyers

Service Events

2021

- June: 6<sup>th</sup> Area Committee Meeting  
Aitkin 9-2
- August : 1<sup>st</sup> Area Committee Meeting  
Aitkin 9-2
- September: 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> West Central Regional  
AA Service Forum  
Zoom
- October: 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Fall Assembly  
Arrowwood Resort Alexandria, MN

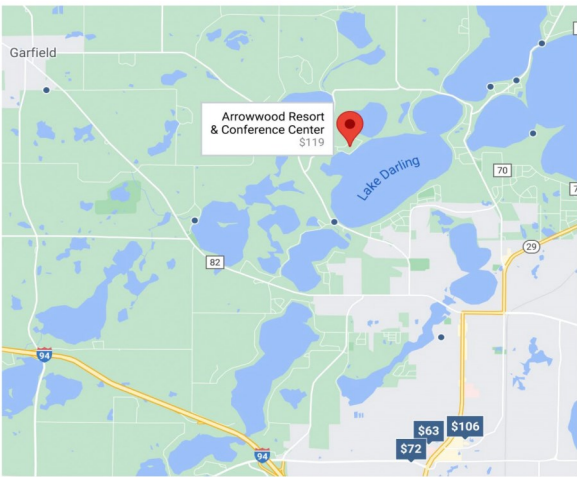
Area 35 Fall Assembly

Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center

2100 Arrowwood Lane NW, Alexandria Mn

October 2 – 3, 2021

Room Rates: \$129 night, plus tax  
To make **reservations** please call: 320-762-1124  
Reserve under: Area 35 – Northern Mn Area Assembly  
Room Block Cut-off Date is: **Sept 1, 2021**



**Saturday, October 2**

9:00 AM Registration  
10:00 AM Assembly Convenes

**Sunday, October 3**

9:00 AM Assembly Reconvenes

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

“When I look into the eyes of the person next to me and ask, ‘How are you?’, I will take the time to listen. I want to keep in mind that at any given time, each of us may need the same love and support as someone who is attending their first meeting.”

*“Taking the Time to Listen,” Jacksonville Beach, Florida, December 1997, Voices of Long-Term Sobriety*



Area 35  
General Service Conference  
Agenda Items Process

Greetings Area 35,

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

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

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

Thank you for your Help.

Agenda  
Deadline Dates

**December 15<sup>th</sup>**

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

**February 15<sup>th</sup>**

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

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

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in February**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> Week in April**

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

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
CONTACT

James S.  
Area 35 Panel 70 Delegate  
[delegate@area35.org](mailto:delegate@area35.org)

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR  
***SHARING SPRING WORKSHOP***

SPONSORED BY DISTRICTS 9 AND 16

JUNE 19, 2021

TRIUMPHANT LIFE CHURCH  
1307 AUTUMN LANE  
BOVEY, MN 55709

AND ON ZOOM  
948 663 1016  
Password: Workshop21

12:00 – 4:00PM

**JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FELLOWSHIP**

**PLANNED PRESENTATIONS INCLUDE:**

**12:00 NOON - LITERATURE WITH DAVE AND BRUCE  
BACKGROUND INFO ON AA INSIDE, PAMPHLETS,  
HOW TO SPEAK AT TREATMENT CENTERS**

**1:00 HOMEGROUPS – DIANE R and PHYLLIS K - WHAT TO EXPECT,  
FINDING A HOME GROUP, SAFETY**

**2:00 SPONSORSHIP WITH DAN H**

**3:00 SPEAKER - RICCO FROM HIBBING**

**BRING YOUR QUESTIONS!! WE WILL HAVE QUESTION AND ANSWER  
SESSIONS AFTER EACH PRESENTATION.**



***COFFEE AND SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED PER GUIDELINES.  
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!***

## Meeting Guide App Update

March 2021

News for Meeting Guide Participants

This Meeting Guide update is part of a series of communications that are intended to help you stay informed about any changes or enhancements to the Meeting Guide app.

### App Update

Recently some Android users began reporting that their meeting list would not load. This has since been resolved. It was discovered that as part of automated maintenance on February 2, 2012 the SSL certificate for the server that provides the meeting list was replaced. This new certificate relied on advanced encryption methods that made it incompatible with apps on Android 7.0 or older. This certificate was replaced on March 6, 2021 with a new one in a more widely supported format.

### Global participants added

New participants to Meeting Guide include the general service offices of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, among others.

### Meeting Guide support for listing online meetings

We continue to get many questions about online meeting support and finding online meetings in Meeting Guide. The app provides support for presenting online meetings in a variety of ways.

For details on how to configure your online meeting listings see <https://meetingguide.aa.org/online-meetings>

### Up Next

Next major release will include support for additional contribution platforms Cash App and PayPal.

Work has begun to enhance our support website with a knowledge base.

Sincerely,  
The App Support Team  
[appsupport@aa.org](mailto:appsupport@aa.org)

## 9th ANNUAL CROW WING RIVER 3 LEGACY CAMPOUT JULY 2-4th



### FRIDAY

12:00 MOTLEY NOON MEETING

1:00 CHECK-IN

7:00 AA SPEAKER

10:00 CAMPFIRE MEETING

### SATURDAY

MORNING DEVOTIONALS/MEETING

BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

11:00 CANOEING/TUBING/FREE TIME

6:30:00 AL-ANON

8:00 AA SPEAKER

10:00 CAMPFIRE MEETING

### SUNDAY

10:00 OPEN MEETING

**PLEASE NOTE:** THERE WILL BE **NO POTLUCKS EITHER NIGHT**. WE WILL SERVE COFFEE AND WATER. ALL MEALS ARE ON YOUR OWN. OPEN FIRE TO COOK OVER WILL BE AVAILABLE. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO BRING A GRILL. SINK STATION WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR WASHING DISHES.

**NO PETS ALLOWED**

**ADULTS AND KIDS 11 AND OLDER \$15**

**KIDS 10 AND UNDER ARE FREE.**

FIRST COME FIRST SERVE FOR CAMPING SPOTS

CONTACT: B.R. 218.296.1512

281 MORRISON ST E. MOTLEY MN





NORTHERN LIGHT PRIMARY PURPOSE:

The Northern Light, 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 Northern Light 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 Northern Light.
- ◆ 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 Northern Light Committee could subscribe to 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 Northern Light

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.

**Northern Light COMMITTEE** - The Northern Light 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 Northern Light Committee members and editors.

Northern Light COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

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

NORTHERN LIGHT SUBMISSIONS:

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

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

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

Northern Light Editor,  
Cindy S-K

Directions for Inserting a Flier into the Northern Light

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

3. Upon approval mail to :

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

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

4. **OR** if you wish to have Cold Spring Record print your fliers to be inserted into the Northern Light. The Northern Light 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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—725 mailed only or 1000 for mailed and hand outs.

Northern Light Deadlines for 2021 are as Follows:

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

An AA Limerick

I ponder and sometimes I think  
One would guess there must be a link  
Tween all of my puzzles  
And all of my troubles  
And my desperate need for a drink

Some friends began to discover  
And so did my very dear lover  
They begged and they pleaded  
Some changes were needed  
From my stupor, I had to recover

To avoid any more flack  
And to get my life on the right track  
I came to AA  
And a potluck buffet  
And you asked me to keep coming back

It's been said I was a pretender  
The opinion of my foremost bartender  
To move on ahead  
I often hear it said  
It was time to completely surrender

I came clean with my drinking obsessions  
But it raised a whole bunch of questions  
You seemed all prepared  
And you patiently shared  
The traditions, the steps and suggestions

I once was a real sad case  
But today I have been given His grace  
Today I'm not drunk  
And who would have thunk  
I no longer fall down on my face

I have learned from the fathers and mothers  
I have grown with my sisters and brothers  
It is my intention  
As my sponsor would mention  
To trust God, clean house, and help others

Allen K  
District 13

Area 35 Guidelines

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

A good flyer should answer the following questions:

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

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

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

Acronyms

( Spaghetti Soup)

AAWS - Alcoholics Anonymous World Service

ACM - Area Committee Meeting

BB - Big Book (Alcoholics Anonymous)

BTG - Bridging the Gap

CCS - Corrections Correspondence Service

CFCP - Correctional Facility Contact Program

CPC - Cooperation with the Professional Community

DCM - District Committee Member

FNV- Fellowship New Vision Database

FOC - Finance Oversight Committee

GSB - General Service Board

GSC - General Service Conference

GSO - General Service Office

GSR - General Service Representative

GV- Grapevine

GVR - Grapevine Representative

ICYPAA - International Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous

NL- Northern Light

NMAA - Northern Minnesota Area Assembly

PI - Public Information

Panel - The Two Year Rotation a Delegate Serves  
(Ours is an Even # Starting with Panel 2 in 1952)

WCRSC - West Central Regional Service (Conference)

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

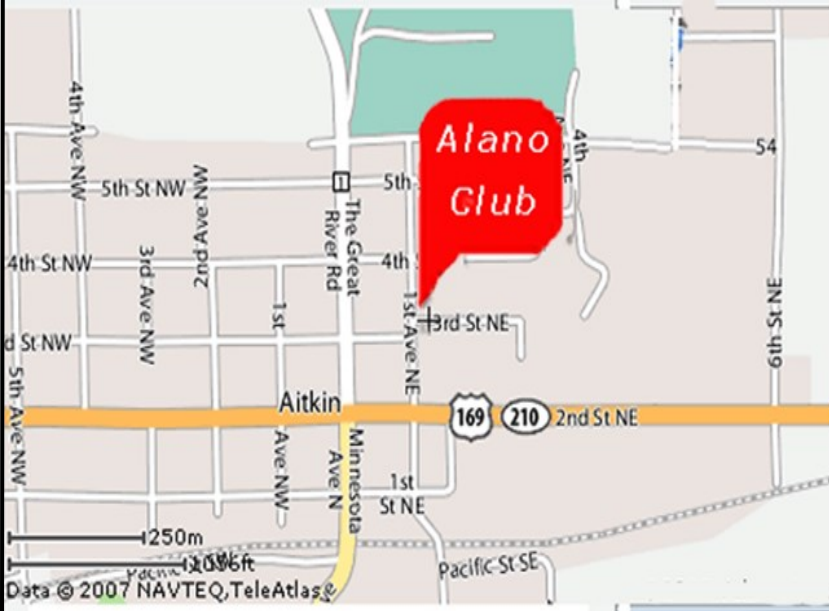
WCRF - West Central Regional (Forum)

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

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

<b>Panel 68</b> 2018-2019 Christine G	<b>Panel 38</b> 1988-1989 Scott J	(deceased)	<b>Answers To Trivia</b> 1. C Page 7 2. A Page 11 3. C Page 26 4. A Page 83 5. B Page 140 6. B Page 245 7. C Page 245 8. C Page 254 9. A Page 201 10. B Page 213
<b>Panel 66</b> 2016-2017 Kelly D	<b>Panel 36</b> 1986-1987 Louie H	<b>Panel 12</b> 1962-1963 Donna T (deceased)	
<b>Panel 64</b> 2014-2015 Michael “Jake” J	<b>Panel 34</b> 1984-1985 Bob P (deceased)	<b>Panel 10</b> 1960-1961 Bob B (deceased)	
<b>Panel 62</b> 2012-2013 Jim K	<b>Panel 32</b> 1982-1983 Tom L (deceased)	<b>Panel 8</b> 1958-1959 Pearl N (deceased)	
<b>Panel 60</b> 2010-2011 Jon C	<b>Panel 30</b> 1980-1981 Don M (deceased)	<b>Panel 6</b> 1956-1957 Waldo H (deceased)	
<b>Panel 58</b> 2008-2009 JoAnne M N	<b>Panel 28</b> 1978-1979 Garfield (Duffy) S (deceased)	<b>Panel 4</b> 1954-1955 Wendell H (deceased)	
<b>Panel 56</b> 2006-2007 Jerry S	<b>Panel 26</b> 1976-1977 Vern R (deceased)	<b>Panel 2</b> 1952-1953 Arthur R (deceased)	
<b>Panel 54</b> 2004-2005 Charlie C	<b>Panel 24</b> 1974-1975 Gordon B. H (deceased)		
<b>Panel 52</b> 2002-2003 Tim C	<b>Panel 22</b> 1972-1973 Frank P. J (deceased)		
<b>Panel 50</b> 2000-2001 Tom A	<b>Panel 20</b> 1970-1971 Clarence B (deceased)		
<b>Panel 48</b> 1998-1999 Susie A	<b>Panel 18</b> 1968-1969 Dave H (deceased)		
<b>Panel 46</b> 1996-1997 Bill Perrizo (deceased)	<b>Panel 16</b> 1966-1967 Arno Adams (deceased)		
<b>Panel 44</b> 1994-1995 Bruce B	<b>Panel 14</b> 1964-1965 Donald F		
<b>Panel 42</b> 1992-1993 Greg G (deceased)			
<b>Panel 40</b> 1990-1991 Bob J			

Q: Why list our past Delegates?

A: They are a resource to you!

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

The Delegate’s Duties

<p>Though the high point is the Conference meeting, the delegate’s job goes on year-round and involves all aspects of the Conference structure. The delegate should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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.</li><li>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.</li><li>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.</li><li>Help area committees obtain financial support for the area and G.S.O.</li><li>Provide leadership in solving local problems involving the A.A. Traditions.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Remind G.S.R.s to inform groups and individuals about the A.A. Grapevine and Conference-approved literature.</li><li>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.</li><li>Visit groups and districts in the area whenever possible.</li><li>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.</li><li>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.</li><li>Keep the alternate delegate fully informed and active, so that the alternate can replace the delegate in an emergency.</li><li>Late in the second term, work with newly elected delegates to pass along a basic knowledge of Conference proceedings and problems.</li></ul> <p>(from The A.A. Service Manual, pages S44-S45)</p>
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Area 35 Spring Assembly Agenda  
Aitkin, MN  
June 6th, 2020

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Mail Area 35 Group contributions to: NMAA  
7633 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE  
Rice, MN 56367