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# This is YOUR Newsletter

## Area 35

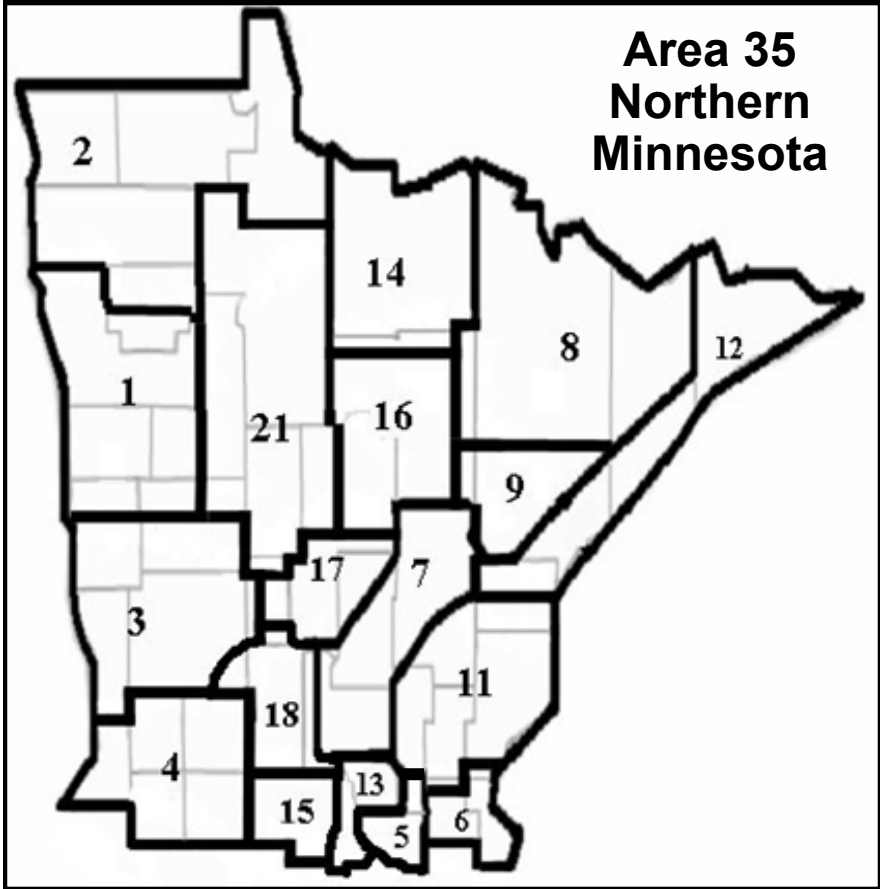
Ada, Aitkin, Akeley, Alango, Albany, Alexandria, Audubon, Aurora, Avon, Babbitt, Backus, Badger, Bagley, Barnesville, Barnum, Battle Lake, Baudette, Baxter, Beaver Bay, Becker, Bemidji, Bethel, Big Lake, Biwabik, Blackduck, Bowstring, Boy River, Braham, Brainerd, Brimson, Brookston, Browerville, Browns 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, Warba, Warren, Warroad, Watkins, Waubun, Williams, Willow River, Zim, Zimmerman

**Attention SNOWBIRDS let us know you are leaving!**  
**Send address change request to**  
**grouprecords@area35.org.**

**Send articles and comments for publication to**  
**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** - Big Fork, Bowstring, Boy River, Cohasset, Deer River, Grand Rapids, Hill City, Lawrence Lake\*, Longville, Remer, Warba
- 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

*\* 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 4** - Alexandria, Browns Valley, Carlos, Elbow Lake, Evansville, Glenwood, Herman, Kensington, Osakis, 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, Parkers Prairie, Staples, Verndale

**Zone IV**

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

**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, 2:00 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, 7:00 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 35 February 2023 ACM Minutes  
Zoom  
February 26, 2023

**Call to Order:** Area Chair Christine G. called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, February 26, 2023, and opened with the Serenity Prayer.

**Recognition of Past Delegates In Attendance:** None present.

**Additions to agenda:** Discussion on creating a digital list to send out Northern Light via email; Discussion on making all Area Committee Meetings virtual permanently.

**Points of order:** Two-minute limit for sharing at the mic; mute when not speaking; show video of yourself when speaking. Motions of five words or more must be displayed in Chat, and polling will be used for voting.

**Approval of December 2022 ACM Minutes:** Kyle H. motioned to approve the minutes, Heidi B. seconded, **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The password for the agenda items on area35.org is cai2023.

**OFFICER REPORTS**  
**DELEGATE – STEVEN L**  
Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Well, *Agenda Item season* is upon us. You can find all the agenda items and background information on our website area35.org under the general-service-conference tab. The password is cai2023, please pass this on to all the GSRs and inquisitive people in your districts. There are 98 agenda items this year if my count is right, with only ten as agenda considerations. I have already received updates to five agenda items; Agenda I has two changes. Two topics were in French. Policy Admission VII added a calendar. Finance IV fixed a broken hyperlink. Trustees XI changed two of the Trustee slates. Public Information VIII revised items A and P.

I am looking forward to attending the West Central Regional AA Service Conference (**WCRAASC**) in Omaha this weekend. You can still get a room at the block rates, so if you booked a room at a different hotel because the block is full or booked a room, not at the block rate, you can now get block rate rooms at the hotel. I believe you can still preregister for the conference just at a higher rate. You do need to register even if you are going to attend by Zoom. You will receive the zoom codes by email before the conference. Because of the high cost of printing the directories around 3 to 5 thousand dollars for the WCRAASC will only be available digitally.

I was assigned an extra committee to report on at WCRAASC. The extra committee is Treatment & Accessibilities, so I’m reading and digesting as much as I can to give an informed presentation for both committees, Literature and Treatment & Accessibilities. I also have many questions to ask and try to get answers to be better informed and fully understanding of some agenda items.

I have been asked to give pre-assembly presentations at four locations with at least eight districts in attendance. I’m looking forward to hearing what the group’s conscious is at these meetings. Please think of a date when you would like me to give a post-GSC report to your district. Get hold of me to confirm the date.

Just a reminder from the emails I’ve sent. The price of literature is going up 20% starting April 3, 2023. The last price increase was in 2014 (18.75%) The GSB asked for and received the resignation of Linda C., a past class A Trustee and Chair of the General Service Board. I don’t have any details. I sent all the DCMs a copy of groups in their districts that contributed to GSO for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2022.

I know it’s early but it's only 4 months away for people to put their resumes out to stand for delegate and 7 months for area elections. So start thinking if you or you think someone would make a responsible trusted servant.

In service, Steve L

**ALTERNATE DELEGATE – JUSTIN W**  
Alternate Delegate Report – Northern Light  
Greetings Area 35. Since the December ACM I have mostly been working on the January Workshop. I contacted the presenting districts and had the privilege of helping prepare them in some cases. Thanks to all of you for doing such a great job with the presentations. I worked with Scott and Terry from District 12 to finalize their responsibilities for registration and coffee, and they did a presentation as well. Thanks to District 12 for hosting the workshop and for a job well-done. I finalized the details with the hotel regarding the specifics for set up and signed and approved multiple revisions to the banquet event order. The hotel was a pleasure to work with for the most part. I finalized the Evaluation Forms, and the Voice Book and got the Evaluations and some other things printed. Thanks to Christine for printing the Agendas at the last minute.

To start with, there were a few errors that I’m aware of. The agenda was missing any reference to the GSR and DCM sharing session reports so those

will be in the next issue of the Northern Light. I added this into the templates for the Agenda and the Voicebook for next year which should keep it from happening again. Also, I neglected to put together a list of restaurants in the area and have added notes to the Voicebook template about this, so it is not overlooked in the future.

There were also a few issues that I consider to be much more significant. The audio was inadequate for the zoom attendees. It was suggested we might need wearable microphones if it’s going to be successful. Our equipment did include integrated mics that weren’t able to be used, and I wonder how this might have helped. We need to get a handle on this if we are planning on hybrid area events in the future, and I am available to help with it if I can. Worst of all, there were 2 past Delegates attending via Zoom for the entirety of the event and I did not recognize them as past Delegates nor include them in the Ask-it-basket; Susie A – Panel 48 and Tom A– Panel 50 (also past West Central Regional Trustee). There was a note passed to me after the event asking if they should have been involved in the Ask-it-basket, to which I respond “Yes...Absolutely”. I have spent a considerable amount of energy wishing that note had been passed to me a little sooner so I could have addressed the error during the workshop. One of the evaluations I received asked “why weren’t the past Delegates on Zoom used for Ask-it-basket?” The short answer is because I did not know that they were attending via Zoom when we started the Ask-it-basket. I neglected to ask and didn’t have any indication that they were present. I did receive text messages at 11:33 and 11:39 letting me know, but I did not see either of them until after we closed the event. It was an oversight; an egregious error by my own estimation, for which I am culpable and responsible.

I am sincerely sorry and remorseful for this, and I humbly ask your forgiveness. My dictionary and our program say that making amends is about compensating for the injury; paying for it; trying to make it right. I’ve had a few days to think about this and have spoken to multiple people about it, each of them more than once. I will address the personal injuries directly at the earliest possible opportunity. But there has been an injury to the groups in area 35. We all stand to benefit a great deal from the experience and advice of our past Delegates and because of this error, we suffered the loss of this privilege and opportunity. I can’t think of a way to repay this debt directly; that is return what was lost. But I will do all that is within my ability to make sure it doesn’t happen again. Since I will have the opportunity to help the incoming alternate delegate set up the next workshop, I assure you it will not occur at the next workshop; or any future event I attend, even if it means making a point-of-order from the mic and interrupting the event. Also, I have edited the voice book template such that Zoom participants cannot be overlooked by the chair in the future. While I cannot single-handedly solve the technical issues we had with Zoom, I will certainly suggest that we should create something of a “procedure” for hosting area events over zoom. We need to bring the Zoom participants into the room a little better, so we can see that they’re with us on the projector screens, and do what we can to make their experience the best it can be.

We received a total of 39 evaluation forms for the event, about 13 from GSR’s and 26 from repeat offenders. This is an estimation because it’s based on how many workshops each person has attended. There’s a rating system built into the form based on the checkboxes for how satisfied each person was, and the event scored 3.5 out of a possible 4. So, this is pretty good... I guess it was a 3 and a half Star Workshop! I received quite a bit of feedback including several suggestions for improving the workshop. Several folks thought the hotel was too expensive. This was definitely a consideration when selecting the venue. There were a couple of other hotels I looked at that were cheaper but literally could not accommodate us. Last year’s hotel was priced just right but failed in multiple ways to accommodate us. It's tough to find a good balance between the cost of the venue and the actual value we expect. The costs associated with lodging and events have gone through the roof here recently.

There were a few suggestions like having a list of restaurants and I have added notes for this to the Voicebook template; possibly having another AA meeting during the sharing sessions and committee meeting time slot so folks that aren’t involved in those would have something to do. This has also been added as an option to both the Voice Book and Agenda templates. One person said we should have had a box for the evaluation forms which I have added to the Voice Book template for next year. It was suggested that we might consider providing some guidance on how to conduct the sharing sessions. We’ve heard this before and I’d like to see the area committee develop a format document for the sharing sessions if it is in line with the conscience of our group here.

But the words used most often in the comment section of the evaluations we got back were “thanks”, “awesome”, “loved”, “excellent”, “special thanks”, “very informative” and “great job”. A few even said it was the best workshop they had been to, or one of the best they had been to. And I did verify that they had been to more than just this one! Saturday morning, before the event started, the saleslady took me into the kitchen to show me where the freezer was so we could keep our ice cream in there. She mentioned that they’d be offsite for a wedding as we passed the coffee machines, and I tried to tell her how important coffee was to our group. I mentioned we were really good at making coffee and would be willing to make a pot if need be. She said that there “should be” a server available if we needed any additional coffee. So, in the afternoon when Scott and I were faced with the unthinkable dilemma of running out of coffee in a room with a hundred sober alcoholics, and no server in sight, I remembered seeing the coffee machines in the kitchen earlier while simultaneously and conven-

iently forgetting select and pertinent parts of my earlier conversation with the saleslady about not making our own coffee. Scott and I went into the kitchen, and to make matters worse, there was a cook in there who was pretty easy going and turned out to be no match for 2 desperate drunks. Scott made the pot of coffee....not me! Later on, Scott told me that the sales lady came back from the wedding and was none too happy about his shenanigans! I did make amends to the saleslady over the phone and assured her that were not trying to steal the pot of coffee, but that our common welfare had to come first and that running out of coffee was a real threat to the unity of our group! Later that evening when Christine arrived with the ice cream....the freezer was one of those walk-in freezers like they have in the movies; with a door that closes by itself and locks from the outside, like they have in the movies. I put the ice cream in there and the door closed behind me, just like they do in the movies. By the grace of God, I hadn't quite gone in there all the way and the door hit me in the britches instead of closing and latching!

I was asked to review the Conference Agenda with District 13 on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm at the Saint Cloud Alano Club. I have been working on a Power-Point presentation. My plan is to make sure that meaning of each of the agenda items is understood, not reading through all of the background information, which would not be possible. I did decide to prioritize that "Consider" items based on a suggestion from Steve.

This year Zonal Forums would be in Zones 2 and 4 if requested. Zone 2 consists of Districts 3, 4 and 15. Zone 4 consists of Districts 8, 9, 12 and 14. I would ask the DCM's from these districts to please contact me if any of you are interested in hosting a zonal forum this year. As well, I will reach out to each of you via email and/or phone call. Thank you all for letting me be a part of this, and my apology for such a long report.

**CHAIR – CHRISTINE G**

Greetings Area Committee,  
Since my last report, the decision was made to have the February ACM via Zoom to be prudent with area finances. This decision was made in hopes that contributions taken in during the month of February and March would be sufficient to support the Spring Assembly. Area Officers and Committee chairs continue to be prudent.

I will be attending the WCRAASC via Zoom and have registered for that event. I look forward to hearing discussions on the GSC agenda items.

I spoke with Northern Light Editor and Group Records regarding the number of Northern Light that get printed. After emailing the area committee, we decided to print only 750 newsletters to cover all who request a mailed copy plus a few extras for the January/February mailing only.

I have been asked to participate in district 6's workshop in Isanti on March 25. I will be one of the presenters and sharing my story. I am excited to be able to participate in this event.

I will be attending the Spring Assembly in Alexandria. I will be arriving on Friday to ensure all accommodations are in order. Please make your room reservations by March 3 in order to get the group rate. Registration opens at 9am and the assembly will start at 10am. I have contacted District 4 DCM regarding hosting the event and covering coffee sales and registration.

I have done some adjusting with the agenda, for the spring assembly. We are moving the business to happen right after we are done going over the GSC agenda items. This was a request made during/after the fall assembly. This is nothing permanent, we are doing a trial run. Also, there is a lot of business that will need to be taken care of and I need the help of the DCMs to get your GSRs informed on the business items. If you are unclear on what the items are, meeting minutes are a great reference tool to remind you the essence of what was discussed.

Area inventory recommendations will be printed in the Northern Light in the March/April issue. These recommendations should be discussed with your districts and groups and be prepared to discuss them at the Fall Assembly in October. I can make them available via email as well. These sorts of formats help save money on printing, if you would like a hard copy, please let me know and I will make sure to have it printed for you. Thank you to all the committee members for their participation in this important process.

I will have fliers printed for the fall assembly in black and white. This will help save some costs. I will also make them available at the spring assembly for DCMs and GSRs to grab and handout.

Start thinking about your next slate of trusted servants. Delegate resumes need to be submitted to Area Chair by the June ACM. We will be having more discussion on these topics at the spring assembly but do know that this year is a voting year, and we will be electing a slate of new officer at the fall assembly in October so start talking to people who are good leaders and who you feel would serve Area 35 well. Also, by the June ACM, area officers and action committee chairs will need to have their revised trusted servant guidelines updated and in to me. I will work on sending out these documents so you can start working on them.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your area chair.  
In Unity and Service,  
Christine G.

**SECRETARY – SALLY L**

Greetings, Area 35. Since the January Service Workshop, I have put all the comments I had received from my fellow Area Inventory ad hoc committee

members into one document. We got all the comments narrowed down into recommendations, and I then put them into our final document, which I submitted to the Area Chair. We have completed our task.

Please get your reports to me by the end of today, or by Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at the very latest.

I have begun reading the background material for the agenda items. I will be attending WCRAASC via zoom. I will attend Spring Assembly.

I have also helped our Area Chair in any way that I could, doing some proof-reading and providing some suggestions.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.  
Sally L.

**TREASURER – VICKI R**

Area Committee Meeting  
Treasurer Report  
2/26/23

Hello! Group finances through 2/22/23:

Group Contributions	\$ 7,819
Birthday/Other	\$ 1,325
Service Wkshop	\$ 1,930
Net Lit/Grapevine	\$ 903
Total	\$11,977

Total Expenses	\$ 8,898
Net Income	\$ 3,097

There have been several larger donations from groups which is encouraging.

The budgeted income is \$42,000; minus \$11,977 leaves \$30,023 to take in the rest of the year.

Cash projections:	
Register balance at 2/22/23:	\$ 11,591
Expected receipts Mar/Apr:	\$ 5,272
Expected expenses:	(\$15,295)
Net cash at Apr 30:	\$ 1,571

Keep in mind that estimated expenses include \$8,405 for Spring Assembly. Spring Assembly is April 1-2. Counting only Mar estimated receipts the expected cash would be (\$1,715). Being mindful of expenses at the assembly will be critical to avoid dipping into prudent reserves. (Although that is what they are for, temporary support for Area business)

I have continued to update the financial records and sent the DCM's a report to summarize the financial activity in each District for 2022. The report is for DCM's to consider reach out to groups to see what support they need and to share information about why the Area was created and what the various roles in service do.

**DCM's please bring the following back to your groups to get their opinion on what they want. It will be brought up for further discussion at Spring Assembly.**

I've researched the cost of a cell phone because to implement Venmo and PayPal, these apps require a way to text and verify the account and to transfer funds. In the spirit of being self-supporting this is the best option because it can be handed off in next rotation, or in the event a current Treasurer vacates the position for some reason.

**Cell phone and data plan**

Google Pixel 6a - \$299 at Amazon + Data plan \$420 (\$35/mo.) = \$719  
TracFone – Samsung Galaxy A12 32GB - \$149.99 + Data plan \$420 = \$569.99  
TracFone – Motorola G Power 6GB Prepaid – 69.99 + Data plan = \$489.99

**Further discussion on financial apps**

My understanding from the Dec meeting was to implement Venmo. I also recommend PayPal. I understand the Area had a PayPal account but it was closed. This gives members 2 options to make electronic payments.  
-Cost to the Area for using Venmo is 1.9% of the transaction plus .10  
-Cost to the Area for using PayPal is 1.9% of the transaction plus .49  
-Square nonprofit rates: 2.6% + .10 and 3.5%+.15 when donors use a credit card  
-PayPal rates are charity rates, Venmo doesn't offer discounted rates anymore.

I provided the cost to use Square, but I think it is expensive compared to the other two and if there is significant growth with members using these apps we could revisit it.

The benefit is that a lot of people use these apps, and it makes it easy to donate to the Area. Another advantage is if Groups set up these apps, they can also contribute easier and save time and money.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR & DCM REPORTS**

**WEBMASTER – KYLE H**

Greetings Area35, My time has been spent preparing a presentation for the Assembly around Office 365, typical website updates to the calendar, and a fairly significant upgrade to the underlying site itself. I have also received excellent feedback from our first test of hybrid meeting equipment at the

(Continued from page 5)

Workshop, and have been working to make some increases to the Audio Quality issues.

Thanks for the opportunity to be of service!  
Kyle

#### **NORTHERN LIGHT – HEIDI B**

We had 6 in our committee meeting this morning and discussed Microsoft 365 costs for the Area and adding a digital version of Northern Light to email to members. I have added this to the agenda to discuss.

Since the January Area Workshop, I got the Jan/Feb issue of the Northern Light out to the printer. As Christine mentioned in her report, the printing quantity was reduced from 1,000 to 750 to cover newsletters for our mailing list only. We weren't meeting in person this month, so there was no need to print the extra copies for the DCM's to take to their districts. This will reduce our printing costs for this issue.

The deadline to submit fliers or articles for the March/April issue of the Northern Light is Wednesday, March 1. This deadline is very tight and needs to be sent to the printer the following day to make sure we receive the issue before Spring Assembly. Please make sure flyer guidelines are followed before sending to me as there won't be time to edit. The guidelines are published in the Northern Light. I will be adding the agenda items to the issue, and am trying to fit the new pricing for our literature per Pat.

I'm registered to attend WCRAASC virtually and am looking forward to it. Thank you for allowing me to serve.  
Heidi

#### **DISTRICT 3 – MELVIN S**

I personally have finished with the Area 35 inventory committee and workshop presentation. District 3 is making progress with their given duties and we now have a new secretary Kay H. We are still trying to straighten out our meeting schedule and work on group record updates. The problem is that groups are unaware that they should be sending in group change forms, so hunting down groups that don't, means driving 30 to 40 miles to see if the group is still there. We are tactfully trying to educate groups that contributions and self support are a tradition and giving correct addresses to send contributions. We have also just had one of our oldest meetings in the district secede from district 3. The members from this meeting were instrumental in showing our district how the district should be run and will be missed.

In Service, Melvin S

#### **GROUP RECORDS – DENISE R**

I continue working on updating Group Information changes and New Groups as they come in. Several districts continue to work on verifying their Group's meetings and sending me any changes which is greatly appreciated. There are a few situations I have been working with concerning groups or meetings that meet at Alano Clubs. As a reminder from our AA Group Pamphlet and Tradition 3, "any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation." An Alano Club is a building that is used to hold meetings. Alano Clubs are not AA Groups.

I have recently been reminded once again that for a Group to be listed with the General Service Office (GSO) they need to have current contact information. If a Group does not have a GSR or Alt-GSR they need to have a person who is willing to provide their name, address, email and be the contact for the group to receive communications from GSO. Without at least a contact person, the group can not be listed which then means they can not be on aaminnesota.org or the Meeting Guide App.

I am working through a list of Groups that have been listed as "unknown" instead of "active" because GSO does not have a mail contact attached to the Group. A group can also become "unknown" because of returned mail. If it's been 2 years or more since your group has had a GSR or Alternate and you are unsure if your group has a contact person, please let me know so I can check your group status.

The Ad hoc committee I was part of has finished reviewing our part of the Area Inventory and will bring our recommendations to the Spring Assembly. It was a pleasure to be part of this committee.

I have just started attending a new 13 week in depth study of the 12 concepts via Zoom led by Billy N. Sunday evenings at 7:30. I will pass along the information to anyone else that wants to join just let me know.

As always thank you for allowing me to serve the Area,  
Denise R.

#### **DISTRICT 16 – DAVE C**

Good morning I'm Dave C District 16 DCM, I had the great opportunity to introduce the district 16 presenters at the January area workshop. That's all I had to do as I had a group of guys who I knew would do a good job. I was so thankful for this group of young and old members. As for the workshop, it was great. I believe I learned more that weekend than ever before. (Well Maybe I learned to listen better). I do hope that as we look at things to cut back on, the January workshop is not one of them. I've learned and have been encouraged to work the AA program and hopefully to be of servant to my District and the area in a better way. From the January workshops I've been to. District 16 will have two eager to serve fairly new to the program who will tell how important a Sponsor was and still is to their program. At the tri-District workshop March 18th. Diane from District 9 will tell you more, she's the chair.

District 16 wanted to have Delegate Steve L walk us through the upcoming agenda items and that the district would pay for his gas to help the Area out, then we were asked if district 8 and 9 could join and so it will be a tri-district adventure on March 25th at 1PM till Steve runs out of wind! At the United Methodist Church in Grand Rapids. (Second Church up from Airport) you can go to district 16 online. org under event for a flyer.  
Yours in service, Dave C.

#### **LITERATURE – PAT M**

Hello Area 35, I am Pat M and I'm your Literature Chair. I am also an alcoholic. We had 3 people at the committing meeting, districts 21, 3 and 6. We discussed on how we can better use our literature for workshops, jail meetings and treatment centers. AA Lit is going up in price. I was waiting for this. The last time it went up was in 2009 and it went up 33.3% and now it's going up 20-30%. I sent a price list of all new prices in the literature, that will be effective 4/3/23 to Heidi. I have put a bundle of books together of area literature and I believe most people don't know we have this literature. The literature bundle of books I put together are: *AA Comes of Age, Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers, Pass it On, As Bill Sees It, Came to Believe, Living Sober, AA in Prison, Experience, Strength and Hope, AA Service Manual, Our Great Responsibility, A Visual History of AA* and then I throw in a handful of pamphlets. The cost is \$84.89 and you're getting 11 books and pamphlets with each book coming to \$7.71. I original put this bundle together for Literature Chairs to share with groups, but I have been selling these to individuals more than groups. It makes a good gift for sponsors and sponsees. I will be visiting districts 21 and 3 in the near future. I would like to visit all of the districts. If you have a time and a place you would like me to come, please let me know now and I will be there. Thanks for allowing me to serve are you Area Literature Chair.

#### **DISTRICT 12 – TERRY A**

Greetings from District 12:

Our Committee members are very active. Archives is receiving materials and information from members in our area and all is stored at the Duluth Alano Club. Corrections/ Veterans Outreach is providing Grapevine subscriptions for Institutions in our area, along with pamphlets and brochures. Meetings in jails have resumed with various attendants. PI/CPC: Two Billboards will be going up, stating "If you want to drink, that's your business, If you want to quit, we can help". The billboards have our website and Intergroup phone number. The Intergroup board is active and participating in our District 12 meeting by providing a liaison each month. Treatment: Provided sign up sheets for people interested in Outreach program and following up on previous contacts for bringing meetings to treatment centers and prisons. Webmaster continues to update the website with events, meetings, downloads and resources. We are planning on having Steve L Delegate visiting our District 12 meeting May 18, 2023 for his report/updates from GSO conference. Anyone interested in attending is welcome. This will be held at 1st Lutheran Church 1100 E Superior St, Duluth MN. Like usual - enter back door, lower level of the church on London Road. Pizza will be provided.

Yours in Service,  
Terry A

#### **DISTRICT 5 – JARRIN V**

Hello everyone Jarrin district 5 DCM, well it's been a very busy winter for me. Lots of ice fishing opportunities in district 5, we've made a few trips had some good times. We've also had a workshop/potluck called 'meat the district' we had some guests over from district 6 and from area 36. Had a great turnout and a good time thanks to everyone that was there and participated. And we had presentations at our district meeting from Mike the grapevine chair and Pat our literature chair. They came down and shared at the district meeting how they could be of service to district 5 thanks to both of them for coming down.

Also found out had an invitation from district 6 to come over and hear from Steve L when he comes down to share about the agenda items. I've got the agenda items out to everyone in district 5. I'll let them know that the passwords available for them when it comes time for them to start checking out background material. We have had a couple of changes in district 5. We have a new secretary. Dan is our new secretary and we have a new district 5 treatment chair. Carter has stepped up into that position. And we also have a new alternate district 5 treatment chair. So thanks to all of them people that have stepped up to keep these positions filled and to keep the message going out to those in need in district 5. Can't think of a whole lot else that I have to share. Looking forward to the spring assembly. Also I do know of quite a few people from district 5, different gsr's and people that will be attending the spring assembly in Alexandria. looking forward to seeing everyone. I also have had the opportunity of going to the drunks on ice 6th annual ice fishing contest event. It was a gorgeous day out on the ice with always great fellowship in that area too. Thanks to them for the invitation. Ice fishing is great but spring is great too. I'm looking forward to it. With all this summer's sober campouts.

Yours and service, Jarrin

#### **PUBLIC INFORMATION – NELS P**

Greetings Area 35, at the February ACM PI/CPC we had 7 attend our committee meeting.

District 12 has had success reaching people via two billboards resulting in people calling intergroup and they are also utilizing the webpage with a lot of hits on the webpage. They are also working hard at getting into treatment and hospitals.

District 6 is trying to get into treatment centers and probation and has provided info to hotels and they are using business cards to reach out.



District 9 has a new webpage [www.district9online.org](http://www.district9online.org) and they will also be attending the tri district workshop, they have also sent out letters to groups asking for volunteers to help with PI/CPC.  
District 5 held a ‘Meat the District’ event serving food and had good attendance and has gotten more people involved in service and they are working on getting into treatment centers.  
District 4 CPC chair is working with probation and also is working with outpatient facilities.

As for myself, I’ve been trying to reach the Area PI chair to discuss the state fair but have not heard back as of yet. I recently spoke at the treatment center in Virginia and I’m looking forward to spring assembly and having a sign-up sheet for the state fair. Our district meeting will be held at my home group in Ely and I plan on attending and discussing ways to reach the still suffering alcoholic.

In Service,  
Nels P

**DISTRICT 2 - DAVE N**  
No report.

**DISTRICT 4 – JAMES W**  
No report.

**TREATMENT – RICCO R**  
The Area 35 committee and myself have been waiting for the completed Bridging the Gap spreadsheet made by Dani, the updated and final brochure, the client and the volunteer forms have been ready to put on the Area 35 web site also. It is a waiting time till we can move on and introduce the Bridging the Gap program to the area so we can contact all the DCM’s and anyone else involved and interested in using the program.

I have been doing other reading and learning about how to move on when we put the BTG program in service. I have also been reading the Agenda Items coming up for the 72<sup>nd</sup> Conference to be informed and be ready to comment on them when Steve comes to let us know about them.

We had five people present at our Area 35 Treatment Committee. Peggy from District 13, Bob from District 7, Jeff from District 16 Julie from District 6 and Ricco treatment Chair. We had a lively meeting and came up with some ideas what to do next. One thing we are going to do is put on a service workshop. The committee will meet on zoom in the near future to start to plan it. We still plan on bringing the Bridging the Gap program to the area as soon as it is put on the Area 35 Web Site.

In Unity and Service,  
Ricco

**DISTRICT 6 – JULIE N**  
Hey it's Julie from district 6. We have been meeting and are getting excited about traveling down to West Central conference. We have 11 going from district 6. Corrections have been doing meetings in Isanti county jail. We have a few dates coming up. We hope all can join us we have Steve L coming to join us on March 19<sup>th</sup> NOON. To give a full report back from West Central Conference Alcohol Anonymous at the Isanti Alano Club. We will be having hot dogs. So far district 5 and 11 will be joining us. All are welcome. Second date to save is we will be having a service workshop March 25, from 1030a-430 with putting the puzzle pieces together of service main speaker past delegate and now serving area chair Christine. Having games lunch and fellowship.

Spread the LOVE,  
Julie N

**DISTRICT 7 – ROBERT N**  
We did not have a December meeting, due to the weather and lack of a Quorum.  
At our January meeting we discussed having an informational picnic this summer. We decided to check with Brainerd parks and to reserve a date for the picnic. We now have it reserved for July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.  
We are working on visiting the groups that are not active in the district and Area.  
We discussed Crow Wing County fair and how we should man the booth or if we should have a booth. This is an ongoing discussion.  
I would probably be visiting more groups in the area, but my vision for driving at night is not what it was earlier in my life, or when I was drinking I just aimed the car.  
At our march meeting Steve L. our Delegate will be there to discuss the agenda items. We will also have a potluck starting at 5:30.

Thanks for allowing me to serve.  
Bob N

**CPC – GREG C**  
Had a nice sharing session with members of the PI/CPC committee. (Nels will have info in his PI report). One area which I have been pursuing which we didn’t get a chance to discuss was meeting information on the GSO website. What is there now is anything but accurate or useful!! As I write, I am waiting for a call back from my counter-part in NY who is trying to find out who is responsible for changing/adding information. It is discouraging to have so many Districts in the AREA establishing new websites and then not have any of them displayed on the National website! Okay, I’ll calm down now and patiently wait for some answers and then I can share that with you.

I am also working with Districts to try and pull together funding to allow

AREA 35 to participate in the annual March Conference in April. (that is Mn Assn. of Resources for Recovery and Chemical Health) As the Area is short on funds at present, I am reaching out to Districts who may be able to contribute to pay for the registration. Volunteers will then work the booth over that weekend and shouldn’t need over-night expenditures.  
Looking forward to the Spring Assembly in Alexandria in April! Hope to see many of you there!

Greg C

**DISTRICT 18 – SCOTT S**  
No report.

**DISTRICT 15 – LISA M**  
My name is Lisa and I am an alcoholic. Our district is preparing and planning for our upcoming Stearns County Roundup on March 25th. There will be a two-piece chicken dinner, followed by an Al-Anon and AA speaker. Ice cream will be served between the two speakers. Tickets are available for pre-sale or are available at the door.  
A new AA group joined District 15, Area 35 from Willmar. The Willmar area does not have a district and the group was looking for opportunities to be of service. We are excited to have them be a part of District 15.

Discussion was held about Eagle's Healing Nest in Sauk Centre and possibly entering into a program similar to Bridge the Gap. More discussion will be had.

Finally, the Recovery Center in Paynesville is looking for women to speak at their Friday evening meeting.

**ARCHIVIST – MARC N**  
February ACM, Archivist Report  
In January, an exhibit of the archives was presented at the Service Conference. There was also an exhibit at a Round Robin in District 11. In February an exhibit was presented at the District 5 “Meat the District” event. At the Round Robin a person offered to donate a VCR recording, I declined because at the time I did not know how to digitize or otherwise preserve the item. At the district 11 event Rich, the district archivist presented an excellent portrayal of what the AA archives are all about.

I have spent a lot of effort attempting to recover the digital files that were archived in the past, but there seems to be no way to recover those scanned documents or recordings. Some of the hard copy documents might be filed, but most recordings are lost.

I think that the area’s financial hardship is a blessing, at least for the area archives. If not for throttling the activities of the archivist some violations of traditions would have certainly happened. In particular anonymity; many of our paper documents and many of our recordings include identifiable traits, facial pictures and/or full names. Many items would have been posted on virtual archives and these items would continue to be part of archive exhibits. It is important to understand the proper respect for anonymity.

There is an abundance of work to be done to organize our archive items. We have many items that I personally would not have accepted as archive material, some have little or no relevance to AA, some are duplicate items, however, now that these are part of archives, removal is difficult. We have many publications, some of which have been collected to preserve articles about AA, perhaps saving the article and acknowledging the source would reduce the bulk of storage and allow digitizing. With the help of the archives committee I will sort these first for removal of duplicates and determination of relevance, then later to preserve just the relevant parts. This will be a slow process as visits to archives are not frequent due to finance concerns.

In the interest of thrift I have not yet purchased, for the area, a scanner/printer, nor equipment to digitize reel to reel tapes and vinyl records, there are a couple cassette players in archives to connect to archives laptop for digitizing cassette tapes. In fairness to a future archivist, I feel that the area should purchase the equipment and supplies so that a person without the means to own such devices is able to serve. Then again, perhaps there is opportunity for service or non-monetary contribution; one person has volunteered a printer/scanner, maybe someone has means/method to digitize about a dozen VHS videos, some reel-to-reel tapes, or about 2 dozen vinyl records.

In humble service,  
Marc

**ARCHIVES – RENELL P**  
Present Kathy M. DCM from District 11, Steve E. from Dist. 12, Marc N. Archivist, and myself.

Marc gave us a report on his activities.  
District 5 invited him to attend their special Open House meeting on Sunday February 19th. He has his vehicle packed full with archives to present at the Big Ollie Roundup and Area 35 Spring Assembly. Gopher State has also extended an invitation. We discussed cutting back on trips to the archives, due to Area’s financial ability to reimburse extra trips.

Marc, and I, have been invited to a Zoom District Meeting, this evening, for District 9, to discuss Archives at the area level.

Steve has received more donated items for the Duluth archives. Everyone remember, donated items are always welcome.

We talked briefly about the Area 35 Archives policy. Marc and I will discuss it at the session, later today. It will be voted on by the general assembly at the Spring Assembly

(Continued from page 7)

Marc brought up the subject about the banners in the archives. We were wondering where the banners are from the previous years. Who is responsible in each rotation to transfer them to archives?

Since the workshop in January, Marc and I have been communicating by email, phone and meeting in person to discuss future plans for sorting and saving archive materials and upcoming display possibilities.

I will be attending the WCRAASC via Zoom.

Yours in Service,  
Renell P

**DISTRICT 11 – KATHY M**

Hello Area 35, I'm Kathy M, the new DCM, District 11. I've been working on attending all meetings listed to assure they're still meeting and to confirm contact information.

We are discussing scheduling District Meetings within the District, as started by past DCM Vicki R. to promote service work and the need for contributions.

Our District has sober bowling on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month. Some of our meetings hold fellowship before the meeting playing Cribbage.

I attended a Round Robin recently, they are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, the one is at the Ogilvie Town Hall at 6:30 March 21<sup>st</sup>, pot luck and a guest speaker.

Members of our District are looking forward to attending Steve L's presentation of the Agenda Items at the Isanti District 6 Alano on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

District 11 will be holding a meeting to discuss the Agenda items before the Spring Assembly.

I will be attending the West Central Regional Conference in person.

Thank you for letting me serve!  
Kathy M

**DISTRICT 14 –**

No DCM

**GRAPEVINE – MIKE U**

No report

**DISTRICT 1 –**

No DCM

**DISTRICT 13 – JIM R**

MARCH 6th - 7:30 PM Tom A. will be doing a presentation & Q&A on how to bring agenda items back to our home groups.

MARCH 13th - 7:30 PM Justin W. will be doing a power point presentation on this year's agenda items.

Both will be held at the St Cloud Alano club.

Our treatment committee continues to make inroads to getting into facilities in our district.

Our PI committee continues to be strong & our district 13 website continues to have several hits each month.

Corrections in our district:

The St Cloud prison still on covid lockdown.

Benton Cty - we need men & women, its still zoom via rooms at the jail.

Stearns County jail, one of our GSR's had a group of ladies apply and are doing meetings now, no men yet, so we are in need of men volunteers.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,  
Jim R

**DISTRICT 21 – JENNIFER T**

Greetings from District 21.

Our district held a GSR workshop Feb 4th with approximately 25 in attendance. We signed up some new GSR's and registered a new meeting in Cass Lake, MN to start in March.

Our district business meeting is at the Bemidji Alano Club at 7pm on the second Monday of each month. Our delegate Steve L will review the General Service Agenda items with us in March.

We have a new district records chair, Brent T., who has been working to update our registered group contacts and get nonregistered meetings registered.

We have a speaker potluck the last Saturday of each month at 6pm at the Bemidji Alano club.

We continue to have open PI, CPC, Corrections and Treatment Chair positions.

In service, Jennifer T.

**CORRECTIONS – ARDEN A**

The Corrections Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer. There were 6 in attendance. Heather, District 8 DCM – Heather said that Thistledeew is now open to A.A. meetings. The meeting is 3rd Wednesday of the month. They have forms to fill out if there is someone interested in participating. There is someone interested in corrections chair in her district and will know by the her next district meeting.

Mark, District 5 Corrections Chair – Men's meeting going strong every Tuesday 7:30pm-8:30pm at Mille Lacs County jail! Men's meeting also going strong at Sherburne County jail via zoom on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month 6:30pm-7:30pm. Hoping soon, to be bring a Women's meeting to Sherburne County jail via zoom on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month 6:30pm-7:30pm! At our MEAT the District after my presentation, I had 3 women sign up to volunteer! Active member of SWCC. I'm representing Area 35 at the Transition Fair at Stillwater Prison March 3<sup>rd</sup>. I have been assisting with the Corrections Temporary Contact Program (CTCP). Found 2 temp contacts for men being released from Stillwater Prison. Close to a 3<sup>rd</sup> contact. 3 for 3 (Isanti, Pine River, & Moorhead)

If someone is interested in Sherburn County Jail Zoom AA meeting, there are forms on District 5 website to fill out. You do not have to be from the area but orientation would be in person at the facility.

Jim, District 13 DCM & Temp Corrections Chair – Jim said St Cloud Prison is still on lockdown. Benton County is still on Zoom at the facility. They are in need of both men and women volunteers.

Tim, District 7 Corrections Chair –Tim said that there are in person jail meetings in Aitkin County and Crow Wing County. They had someone from Willow River Program contact them directly to get them to an A.A. meeting when they got out.

There was a thank you to Tim V for being a link in the chain for helping find contacts for individuals being released from custody. There has been discussion between Arden and Mark regarding transition fairs. The question would be how can we be proactive to make sure we are involved in these fairs.

Diane – DCM District 9 – Diane has been reading the Background information for the Corrections Agenda Items. Tim has been reading them too. Of interest is the "Consider a request to include content to existing AA Literature on Sponsorship of persons I custody by outside members of the fellowship".

Closed with the I am responsible statement. For Arden A Corrections Chair, minutes by Diane

**DISTRICT 9 – DIANE R**

Hi from District 9. Since our last Area 35 meeting we have had two district meetings. We hold our meetings on the last Sunday of the month at 6pm. Our website is now done. You can view it at [www.district9online.org](http://www.district9online.org). Phyllis is the website manager. Included in the website are the all meetings, district and meeting contact information, flyers of upcoming events and more. We are hoping to use this website as a tool for CPC/PI work too.

Our workshop committee met and a flyer was done for our next Tri-District Workshop. It will be held at the Hibbing Alano Club on March 18, 2023 starting at 1:00pm. A zoom link has also been set up. The theme is "Focus on Sponsorship". Charlie C. has been asked to share on Sponsorship, we have Newcomers telling their experience working the steps with their sponsors, and Abby and Evan from Grand Rapids telling their stories to include the theme of sponsorship. It will be followed by an ice cream social. A very full afternoon.

Tri-District Workshop will have a Conference Agenda Item meeting in Grand Rapids with Steve L., our delegate. It will be held at the Grand Rapids United Methodist Church starting at 1:00pm until done. This will also be held on Zoom. The date is March 25, 2023.

All information regarding area finances has been given to the district reminding them that the Area is short of funds but to also remember to contribute all entities including their home groups, district, and GSO so we don't end up short of funds also.

Our treatment chair, Jeff, has been working on and looking for volunteers for Bridging the Gap. Tom, CPC/PI chair sent a letter to the Groups asking for individuals to distribute literature wherever they can. PSA's were given to the local radio station. Our Alternate DCM spoke at the workshop along with other from our district and they did a wonderful job presenting "Our Second Legacy-Unity". Thank you Justin for asking us to be part of the workshop. Our Alternate DCM is looking at doing a district inventory this spring.

The Archivist, Marc N. and Renell P, will be attending our district meeting on Zoom. We have sent them a list of questions to learn more about the archives. If you would like to attend our district 9 meeting tonight, let me know. The Archives portion will be recorded and Marc plans to transcribe it.

In Service, Diane



**DISTRICT 8 – HEATHER L**

My name is Heather Lococo DCM for District 8. Our district meets the first full week of each month, rotating Monday through Friday Hosted by different groups. Our next meeting is Monday, March 6th hosted by the Ely Happy Joyous and Free Group. We still read a chapter from the service manual at our district meetings when possible. We participated in the Area 35 workshop, we all enjoyed being part of the workshop.

We have setup a date to take a district inventory in April. This should be very informative for our district. Don't forget about the Tri-District Workshop about Sponsorship March 18th from 1-4 at the Alano Club in Hibbing. With ICE CREAM SOCIAL!  
Correction committee- no chair, I'm gonna request information from members that use to attend jails. Thistledew has opened and is meeting the 3rd-Wednesday of each month.

Treatment- centers are open, chair Sally is keeping AA volunteers lined up for sharing their experience, strength, and hope. I just spoke at RMH in the past month, and the clients are very happy to have us in there.

Archives- John is doing old- timer interviews and has gone through material. He is very involved in his role.

PI/CPC- Doug talking about looking into getting luncheons going again. I'm still making my rounds to groups in the district, slowly but surely. I have reserved my spot to attend the West Central Regional Service Conference in Omaha.

I do plan on being at the Spring Assembly in April.  
Thank you for letting me serve.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Financial Oversight Committee** – Good afternoon, Zoomies, my name is Brent T, I am an alcoholic, and I am your FOC co-member.  
This is the first FOC meeting held remotely. Past Delegate Jim S and I reviewed Area 35's bank statements and our reconciliation detail reports for the period ending January 26, 2023. We conducted our reviews separately, and then via conference call. We collectively agreed the statements and reports provided to us are in order and accurate.  
Yours in service, Brent T

**Tabled motion:** “Have Kyle move forward with Office 365 to connect DCMs, Area Officers, and Committee Members.” Spring Assy 2023

**Delegate Nomination Process Discussion** – Spring Assy 2023

**Northern Light Content Discussion** - Spring Assy 2023

**Other Area Officer Elections Process Discussion** - Spring Assy 2023

**Ad Hoc Technology Committee**

Webmaster gave a Power Point presentation about the costs for Office 365.

**Area 35 Technology Roadmap**

**Why?**

- Area objectives are to serve the Districts, Groups, and Members.
- The last 2 years have provided opportunities to better serve.
- Include more Alcoholics in Service.
- Provide consistent access to officers/committee chairs to facilitate better communication.

**What?**

- Treat Area35 as more of a Business.
- Provide devices for all area officers and chairs.
- Negotiate best agreements for services.
- Email.
- Cloud Storage.
- Business Applications (docs, spreadsheets, etc.).
- Devices.
- Investigate and provide recommendations on new Technology (Zoom, Teams, etc.).
- Modernize Current Technology (Website, Security Certificates, etc.).
- Document usage and access instructions for inclusion in the Action Book.

**Next Steps**

- Seek approval to form a Technology Committee.
- Gather requirements from each Officer/Chair.
- Review requirements to develop a technology mix that –
- Meets the requirements of chairs and officers.
- Is easy to sustain and support.
- Is flexible to accommodate changes.
- Is financially responsible.
- Gather quotes and determine the best solution(s).

**Options**

- Stay the same.
- Implement office for Officers/Chairs/DCMs – This would provide better email and application access – doesn't provide anything for Hybrid Meetings/Officer Devices.
- Implement office, provide devices for Area Officers and Committee chairs.
- Invest in Equipment for facilitation of hybrid meetings.

**Office 365 Cost Breakdown**

- DCM – 17 \$51/Month
- Area Officers – 5 \$15/Month
- Committee Chairs – 11 \$33/Month
- Past Delegates – 16 \$48/Month
- Total for all - \$147/Month

\*Each User is \$3/Month\*

**Recommendations**

- Migrate email for Officers/Committee chairs/DCMs to Microsoft - \$3/user/month. Approx \$150/month spend.
- Purchase 2x remote Microphone/Cameras for Hybrid meetings.
- Upgrade Sound Board (as ours is broken) to better support Zoom.
- Purchase Large TV/Cart for Hybrid meetings.

Discussion – A lot of discussion was had re: finances and some expenses we already have will go away.

Can we replace Zoom with Microsoft Teams? Maybe not yet.

If we use Office 365, each DCM, officer, and committee chair would have an Area email address.

Zoom is not accessible with Windows 11s.

Bring this to the groups for discussion.

Get in touch with Webmaster at [webmaster@area35.org](mailto:webmaster@area35.org) with questions.

Webmaster will gather information about what the expenses are for our current way of doing things.

Currently some items uploaded to area35.org fall off the website, and the Area calendar has to be updated constantly because things disappear from it.

Webmaster is willing to attend district meetings to explain what using Office 365 will do for the Area.

**Statewide Corrections** – No report

**State Fair Booth** – The dates that Area 35 has to be at the booth are August 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. There are 2-hour time slots from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. each day. PI Chair is trying to get in touch with the Area 36 PI Chair to get more information.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Archives Committee Policy Discussion**

Archives Chair sent out the new policy for discussion. It is also available on area35.org. Vicki as DCM for District 11 came up with a policy for the Archives Committee to review and approve. Archivist and Archives Chair solidified the document.

The job descriptions for the Archivist and Archives Chair have changed over time.

Archivist is reaching out to past Archivists in Area 35 and other Areas to see how they do things.

Share the proposed policy with GSRs.

Part of the job description is to collect a copy of each Grapevine.

Discussion – Do we need to have a copy of each Grapevine, or just the ones with stories from Area 35? Will we need to get a GV subscription?

Job description says all issues are added to the Archives. This started in 1995 according to the Area Actions Book.

Some GVs are missing, and we don't have all printings of the Big Book.

Do we need all GV's when we can access them at [aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org)?

Review the policy that Archives Chair sent out. We will vote on it at the Spring Assembly.

**Area Finances**

This item will remain on the agenda for a while. We will be looking at the checkbook balance as we go. We will be reimbursing our Delegate and Alternate Delegate for their expenses for attending the WCRAASC the first weekend of March, then come the Spring Assembly and sending our Delegate to the General Service Conference in New York. The June ACM is budgeted at \$1400, which does not include the Northern Light printing expense. The NL expense is \$675. The West Central Regional Forum takes place August 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> in Missoula, MT, which is followed six weeks later by the Fall Assembly.

The West Central Regional Forum is budgeted to cost \$16,300 to send Area Officers and Committee Chairs to Missoula, MT. How Area 35 is going to approach the June ACM and the WCR Forum will be discussed at the Spring Assembly.

**Discussion on making a digital list for sending out the Northern Light via email.**

Currently printing 1000 copies. Printing quantity was reduced to 750 (mailing list) for Jan/Feb issue only.

One option for mailing via email is MailChimp.

Do people want printed copies? Some do.

Would emailed copies be anonymity protected? That is still under discussion.

One person said he likes looking it up online.

Another said he likes a printed copy. Sometimes it is not posted to area35.org in a timely manner. NL editor said this has to do with the current system – things get dropped off the website.

People can notify the NL editor or the Group Records chair if they don't want a paper copy.

Can Office 365 mesh with digital NL? How much is saved? Answer:

Dropping the number printed from 1000 to 900 saves \$40.

Office 365 can be more secure.

Everyone on the NL mailing list are not included on Office 365. Would still have to mail copies.

NL can't be emailed using a personal email address. It would be marked



(Continued from page 9)

as spam. An app such as MailChimp would have to be used. Office 365 can be used to email to people not on the network. The Northern Light can have inserts. Can inserts be included in email? Would they be printable? This needs to be investigated.

Make all future ACMs virtual

The Northern Light/Group Records/Web committee came up with a motion in their breakout meeting in the morning. Kyle H. motioned that AREA 35 WILL HOST AREA COMMITTEE MEETINGS VIRTUALLY GOING FORWARD AND OFFER HYBRID ASSEMBLIES AND WORKSHOPS. Heidi B. and Denise R. seconded the motion.

Discussion – This may get more participation and save \$10,000 per year. Question: How much is the cost to provide the hybrid option? Answer: It would be \$4,000 to buy the equipment outright, which would save some money. Not sure how much more it would cost to get the system to the way we need it.

One person agreed with Assemblies and Workshops being hybrid, but would like ACMs to remain in person for new DCMs. It can be hard to hear when on Zoom.

Does a virtual option actually improve participation? What about people that don’t have computers?

Virtual meetings don’t have the same fellowship as in-person meetings.

Nels P. motioned to TABLE “AREA 35 WILL HOST AREA COMMITTEE MEETINGS VIRTUALLY GOING FORWARD AND OFFER HYBRID ASSEMBLIES AND WORKSHOPS” until the Spring Area Assembly. Julie N. seconded.

Vote was taken by poll. Seventeen voted in favor of tabling, three voted against. MOTION TO TABLE PASSED.

Calendar of Events was read.

Motion to adjourn – Jim R. made a MOTION TO ADJOURN, Dave C. seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m. Closed with the Responsibility Statement.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sally L, Area 35 Secretary

A Word from our Delegate

Howdy Everyone,  
This will be short. I’m at the WCRAASC in Omaha, NE and a lot is going on with agenda items and discussions about the confusion with the GSB. I have attended two WCR delegates' meetings. With the confusion, disruption, and distraction of the GSO board member being asked to resign, we are scheduled to have a zoom meeting with all the conference in attendance to get an explanation of the details, what happened, and why. I have a Literature committee zoom meeting planned before the Assembly.

The hybrid zoom is working fantastic both audio and visual we can learn a lot. It’s nice to be away from the snow. Area 35 has had about 30plus registered people and looking towards 325 people in attendance for the WCRAASC. I’ll give a full report at the Spring Assembly.

In Service, Steven L  
3/3/2023

\*\*\*NEW AREA 35 TREASURER\*\*\*

Effective immediately, please send all  
AREA contribution checks to:

NMAA  
37258 Lakeland Rd  
Sturgeon Lake, MN 55783

NEW GSO CONTRIBUTION ADDRESS

Effective immediately, please send all  
GSO contribution checks to:

Post Office Box 2407  
James A Farley Station  
New York, NY 10116-2407

*\*Please remember to include your group service number on all contributions. This will ensure that your contributions get credited to your group.*

A.A. World Services, Inc  
Literature Price Schedule  
Effective April 3, 2023

Item Number	Item Description	List Price Effective 4/3/23
B-0	Alcoholics Anonymous Facsimile First Printing of the First Edition	12.00
B-1	Alcoholics Anonymous (Hard Cover)	12.00
B-10	Boxed Set of Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers and "Pass It On"	26.00
B-11	Boxed Set of Alcoholics Anonymous and Experience, Strength and Hope	18.00
B-12	Daily Reflections: A Book of Reflections by A.A. Members for	12.50
B-13	A.A. in Prison: A Message of Hope	2.50
B-14	Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (large print)	11.00
B-15	Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (soft cover)	10.00
B-16	Alcoholics Anonymous (Large Print)	12.00
B-17	Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (pocket edition)	8.00
B-18	As Bill Sees It (Soft Cover)	11.00
B-19	Daily Reflections: A Book of Reflections by A.A. Members for	12.50
B-2	Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (hard cover)	11.00
B-20	Experience, Strength & Hope	6.00
B-22	Package No. 2	110.00
B-24	Alcoholics Anonymous (Large Print Abridged)	6.00
B-25	Living Sober (large print)	6.00
B-26	Came to Believe (Large Print)	6.00
B-27	As Bill Sees It (Large Print)	11.00
B-3	A.A. Comes of Age	12.00
B-30	Alcoholics Anonymous (Soft Cover)	11.00
B-33	A.A. History Shelf - 4 Volumes	38.00
B-35	Alcoholics Anonymous (Abridged, Pocket Edition)	6.00
B-4	Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (gift edition)	11.00
B-5	As Bill Sees It (Hard Cover)	11.00
B-6	Came to Believe	6.00
B-7	Living Sober	6.00
B-70	Our Great Responsibility	12.00
B-8	Dr. Bob & The Good Oldtimers	12.00
B-85	A VISUAL HISTORY OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: An Archival Journey	12.00
B-9	"Pass It On"	12.00
BM-31	The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service 2021 - 2023	4.00
BM-32	Twelve Concepts for World Service	4.00
BP-23	Package No. 3	130.00
BP-61	Package No. 1	31.50
BP-64	Package No. 4	29.50
DV-01	Markings on the Journey (DVD)	8.00
DV-02	A.A. in Correctional Facilities DVD	8.00
DV-04	Bill's Own Story DVD	8.00
DV-05	Bill Discusses the Twelve Traditions (DVD)	8.00
DV-06	Carrying the Message Behind These Walls (DVD)	8.00
DV-07	Your A.A. G.S.O., the Grapevine, and the General Service Structure	8.00
DV-09	Hope: A.A. DVD	8.00
DV-10	Young People's Videos	8.00
DV-11	Alcoholics Anonymous ASL (DVD)	8.00
DV-12	Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions ASL (DVD)	8.00
DV-13	A.A. Cooperation with the Professional Community (DVD)	8.00
DV-17	ASL A.A. for the Alcoholic with Special Needs	0.40
DV-18	A New Freedom DVD	8.00
DVP-05	PSA DVD Sobriety in A.A.: Since getting sober, I have hope	8.00
DVP-05A	PSA DVD I Have Hope	8.00
DVP-06	PSA DVD "Sobriety in A.A.: Opening doors to a life without drinking"	8.00
DVP-07	PSA DVD "Sobriety in AA: We made changes to stop drinking"	8.00
M-48i	Accessibilities Workbook	2.40
M-5	The Serenity Prayer (parchment)	3.30
M-54	Pocket Folder Set of 20	9.60
M-56	Unity Placard	8.35
M-6	Set - Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Serenity Prayer (parchment)	6.90
M-61	Anonymity Display Card (Tent Fold)	0.20
M-63	This is A.A. (braille)	0.25
M-64	Is A.A. For You? (braille)	0.10
M-65	Frequently Asked Questions about A.A. (braille)	0.30
M-72	History of Service (CD)	9.60
M-73	A Brief History of the Big Book (Pack of 10)	9.60
M-74	CPC Tabletop Display	30.75
M-75	CPC Tabletop Display & Case (Set)	60.00
M-77	Anonymity in the Digital Age Poster (11"x17")	10.60
M-78	Anonymity in the Digital Age Poster (8.5" x 11")	8.20
M-8	Display Rack	30.00
M-81	Alcoholics Anonymous/Unabridged (CD)	11.40
M-81A	Alcoholics Anonymous/Abridged (CD)	6.00
M-82	Display Rack and Extensions Set	60.00
M-83	Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (CD)	10.70
M-84	A.A. Comes of Age CD	11.40
M-85	Living Sober CD	6.00
M-87	Three Legacies by Bill CD	5.80
M-88	Voices of our Co-Founders CD	5.80
M-89	Bill Discusses the Twelve Traditions (CD)	7.60
M-8A	Pair of Display Rack Extensions	30.00
M-9	Responsibility Placard	8.35
M-90	Pioneers of A.A. CD	17.30
M-91	A Brief Guide to A.A. CD	0.30
M-93	A.A. for the Alcoholic with Special Needs CD	0.50
MD-1	A.A. for the Alcoholic with Special Needs CD	0.50
MG-10	For A.A. Members Employed in the Alcoholism Field	0.15
MG-11	Cooperation with the Professional Community	0.15
MG-12	A.A. Answering Services	0.15
MG-13	Sharing the A.A. Message with the Alcoholic who is Deaf	0.15
MG-14	Treatment Committees	0.15
MG-15	Finance	0.15
MG-16	Accessibility for all alcoholics	0.15
MG-17	Archives	0.15
MG-18	Internet	0.15
MG-2	Central or Intergroup Offices	0.15
MG-20	Set of Guidelines	2.45
MG-3A	Relationship Between A.A. and Clubs	0.15
MG-4	Conference, Conventions and Roundups	0.15
MG-5	Cooperating with Court, D.W.I. and Similar Programs	0.15
MG-6	Corrections Committees	0.15
MG-7	Public Information	0.15
MG-8	Relationship Between A.A. and AI-Anon	0.15
MG-9	Literature Committees	0.15
P-1	This is A.A. (Glued)	0.30
P-10	How It Works	0.20
P-11	The A.A. Member - Medications and Other Drugs	0.30

Additional updated literature prices available at [aa.org](http://aa.org)

ACMeeting  
Financial Summary  
2/22/2023

Proj Impact  
Checking 2/22/23 11219.45

Receipts

23-Mar	1990
23-Apr	3285
Total	5,275

Exp

Mar/Apr Fixed cost	3090 NL, Rent, printing, postage
Feb ACM travel	Travel for Officers and Area Chairs
WCReg	2000 Delegate/Alt Delegate
GSO	1800 Delegate Exp
Spring Assembly	8405 Apr 1-2
total	15,295 (2,086)

Net Proj Cash 1,199.45 end of April 23 (541) without apr deposits

Projected travel	ACM Feb	WCReg	WCRForum	Dist Trav	Total
Rent	100.00				100.00
Financial Oversight	84.09				84.09
Delegate	50.00	1,169.85	1,379.00	1,950.00	4,548.85
Alternate Delegate	30.00	828.00	785.00	232.85	1,875.85
Chairperson	52.00		934.00	410.00	1,396.00
Secretary	42.00		1,125.00	170.00	1,337.00
Treasurer	30.00		785.00	232.85	1,047.85
Archives Chair	31.40		868.40	100.00	999.80
Archivist	50.00		1,064.00	700.00	1,814.00
Corrections	7.00		956.00		963.00
CPC	70.00		1,075.00	500.00	1,645.00
Grapevine	50.00		1,388.00	700.00	2,138.00
Group Records Secretary	47.00		602.00		649.00
Literature	37.00		834.00	150.00	1,021.00
Northern Light	57.00		1,012.00		1,069.00
Public Information	57.00		1,012.00	800.00	1,869.00
Treatment	45.00		1,221.00	500.00	1,766.00
Webmaster	92.00		1,276.00	150.00	1,518.00
Web Technology					-
Audio Technician	37.00	-	-	-	37.00
Total	968.49	1,997.85	16,316.40	6,595.70	25,694.35

46,457.21 proj budget shortfall  
(20,762.86)

“A coffeepot simmers on the kitchen stove, a hospital sobers the stricken sufferer, general Headquarters broadcasts the AA message; our service lifelines span the seven seas. All these symbolize AA in action. For action is the magic word of Alcoholics Anonymous. So it is that every AA service daily proves that so-called “material activities” can lead to magnificent spiritual results.”

AA Co-founder Bill W, November 1951  
“Service Makes AA Tick” *The Language of the Heart*



**Area Inventory Recommendations from Committee One  
Odd-numbered questions**

**Question One: Is the Area communicating and sharing information, in an effective and timely manner, with the Groups and Districts to prepare them for Area Assemblies and Committee Meetings?**

- ♦ Reinstitute GSR orientation and add DCM Orientation in a productive, useful manner to educate on communication procedures and service structure.
- ♦ Bring back Zonal Forums.
- ♦ Area 35 website will be updated via Webmaster (Microsoft 365) and can resolve issues such as calendar and email.

**Question Three: Are services that are provided by the Area still purposeful, effective and prudent? How can they be improved? IE. Northern Light, aaminnesota.org, Area35.org, archives office/storage space, financial reports, AA literature, Grapevine literature, audio/recording equipment.**

- ♦ Develop Area plan to offer hybrid option for all events with pre-registration. Assign a technical committee member to help with Zoom.
- ♦ Create a mailing list for a digital option of Northern Light. Allow district digital access for district use.
- ♦ Remove personal email addresses and home addresses in the Northern Light.
- ♦ Ask the Treasurer for recommendations on financial reports and instructions to read current reports.

**Question 5: How are we cooperating with Area 36 (Southern Minnesota)? How can we improve? Some areas we have cooperated are Joint A35/A36 Workshop, State Fair Booth, Statewide Corrections.**

- ♦ Continue the relationship as is and be willing to cooperate as needed.
- ♦ Joint Workshop in July.

**Question 7: Are the Traditions and Concepts guiding our decisions and actions when we conduct business at assemblies?**

- ♦ Recommendation that we all learn love, patience, tolerance, and forgiveness.

**Question 9: Are Area Officers effectively reporting their activities? Are they making themselves available to groups and districts? Is the Area preparing and providing our Trusted Servants with the tools, equipment and resources needed to effectively perform their duties? What can be improved? Officers are Delegate, Alt. Delegate, Area Chair, Treasurer, Secretary NOTE: Evaluate the positions not the people.**

- ♦ Reinstate Zonal Forums.
- ♦ Suggest Area Comm Chairs/Officers visit District Meetings and/or groups in their own district to discuss/inform what the Area does.
- ♦ Provide a unified packet of information on the Area that everyone should follow.

**Question 11: What other concerns do you have that aren't addressed in this inventory?**

- ♦ Service Workshop – more focus on GSR & DCM role in service structure in preparation for Spring Assembly and the agenda items.
- ♦ Hybrid Meetings – create template for doing hybrid meetings.

**Area Inventory Review Recommendations for the even-numbered questions and question 11.**

Recommendations represent possible actions that the area body may consider based on the committee's work in reviewing area inventory. Some recommendations may be able to be implemented immediately by members while others may require a formal action/recommendation be made by the body.

**Recommendations for Question 2 - What keeps groups from sending GSR's to Area Assembly? Is adequate opportunity given to all to speak and participate in Area Assemblies, workshops, and activities?**

1. Have Zonal Forums twice a year as was done previously. Let the districts in the Zone decide what they would like to see at the Forums.
2. Have Area Committee Chairs reach out to the Zones and Districts to see what kinds of workshops they might be interested in.
3. Get out to the groups more to explain benefits of service work. Ask groups to send their GSRs to Assemblies and Workshops. Explain to groups why they need to budget to send their GSRs to Assemblies and Workshops.

**Recommendations for Question 4 - Is the Area spending 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions prudently? Consider the following: Expenses, committee work, communications (financials, mailings) and Accommodations (coffee, room rates, Area committee meetings, assemblies).**

1. The area should encourage area officers and chairs to act prudently when budgeting and attending area events. Efforts to do so may include

carpooling, sharing rooms when possible and comfortable, limiting expense reimbursement for meals, and limiting officer/chair attendance based on current area budget.

2. Have all Area officers and chairs bring back reports from the events they attend to show how attending the event will allow them to better carry out their role and serve the area.
3. Have Area Chair reach out to Area 36 to see what statewide events may be coming up so we can budget for them.
4. Get out to the groups and explain that expenses are rising, and more contributions are needed. A dollar in the basket is not the same as it was 40 or 50 years ago.
5. Develop a budgeting (fiscal) policy.
6. Have the Area Chair or the Treasurer review individual budgets with the person who made the budget.

**Recommendations for Question 6 - When Area decisions are made, is there correct balance between group conscience and the tradition "Right of Decision?" (Concept III)**

1. Allow more time for discussion so things can be made clear and be brought back to the groups.
2. Consider developing a workshop topic or presentation on the Right of Decision and how it is practiced by members serving.
3. Be open to all ideas.

**Recommendations for Question 8 - Does the current format and scheduling, of Assemblies and ACMs, effectively address communication and the business to be conducted? Consider the following: Length of reports, Assembly topics, Time allowed at microphone, Conducting business, Breaks, Sunday format.**

1. Try moving the business portion of the meeting to Saturday and see how it goes. Monitor participation.
2. Book the venue for a longer time on Sunday, until 2:00 p.m.
3. Have DCMs explain to their groups what happens at Assemblies.

**Recommendations for Question 10 - How are Committee Chairs communicating with their District counterparts? Are they making themselves available? Is the Area preparing and providing our Trusted Servants with the tools, equipment and resources needed to effectively perform their duties? What can be improved? Action Committee Chairs are Archivist/Archives, Corrections, CPC, Grapevine, Literature, PI, Treatment, Group Records, NL Editor, Webmaster. NOTE: Evaluate the positions not the people**

1. Area needs to encourage that more Zonal Workshops take place.
2. Committee Chairs need to contact their district counterparts to see what they need and explain what is available. Chairs need to go to the districts.

**Recommendations for Question 11 - What other concerns do you have that aren't addressed in this inventory?**

1. The Area needs to conduct inventories more often.
2. If a Past Delegate is nominated for a position, that person should not take questions from the Ask-It-Basket or tell their story to the Assembly if they know they are going to be nominated.
3. Remind people of why we are at the Assembly or ACM, and also remind them that side comments are distracting.
4. Consider doing a workshop topic and presentation on the first tradition to help address concerns of disunity within the area.

**Share your experience, strength & hope with Area 35 by writing an article for the Northern Light. We want to hear from you!**

**Did you have a great time at an Assembly? Is your home group bringing a meeting to a local treatment center or correctional facility? Please tell us about it. Send an email to:  
northernlight@area35.org.**

**\*\*All submissions must be approved by the Northern Light committee.\*\***

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

\*See area35.org for printable flyers

LONG PRAIRIE  
ALANO ROUNDUP

"EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE"

When: Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church  
610 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave SE  
Long Prairie, MN 56347

Social: 5:00

Pot-Luck: 5:30

Al-Anon Speaker: 6:30 (to be announced)

A.A. Speaker: 7:00 Jason S. from New London

Please Bring a Dish to Share

2023 Service Events

April 1 - 2: Spring Assembly  
Alexandria, MN

June 4: Area Committee Mtg  
Aitkin, MN

July 22: Area 35/36 Joint Comm  
Meeting - Virtual

August 6: Area Committee Mtg  
Aitkin, MN

August 25 - 27: WCR Forum, Montana

October 7-8: Fall Assembly  
St. Cloud, MN

December 3: Area Committee Mtg  
Aitkin, MN

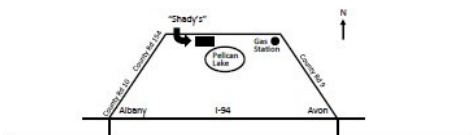
Stearns County Round-Up

Shady's Supper Club  
St. Anna, Minnesota  
18527 County Rd 154

SATURDAY, MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2023  
Social 5:30 pm \$24.00 Advance  
Dinner 6:30 pm \$25.00 At Door

8:00 pm  
Open Meeting

Guest Speakers:  
Al-Anon: Fred H. - St Cloud  
AA: Guy L. - Windom  
Ice cream will be served between speakers.



For more information, call: Lisa @ 515-451-1382



76<sup>th</sup> Superior Roundup

Serenity, Courage, Wisdom

April 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, & 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023

Superior Fairgrounds Curling Club  
Superior, Wisconsin

Friday

2:00 PM REGISTRATION OPENS  
3:00 PM OPEN AA MEETING  
7:00 PM AA SPEAKER Jaymee W. Eau Claire WI.  
ICE CREAM SOCIAL TO FOLLOW

Tickets: \$25

\*Under 1 year sobriety free

Saturday

8:00 AM REGISTRATION OPENS  
8:30 AM YOGA Y12SR  
10:30 AM WORKSHOP "FEAR" Tim W.  
1:00 PM YOUNG IN SOBRIETY PANEL Sara L.  
2:30 PM ALANON WORKSHOP  
4:00 PM AA OPEN MEETING  
6:30 PM ALANON COUNT DOWN  
6:45 PM ALANON SPEAKER JAMIE G. Herbolter WI.  
7:45 PM AA COUNT DOWN  
8:00 PM AA SPEAKER Michael D. Sioux Falls SD.  
ICE CREAM SOCIAL TO FOLLOW



Sunday

9:00 AM OPEN MEDITATION MEETING  
10:30 AM AA SPEAKER Dan H. Bovey MN.



76<sup>th</sup> Superior Roundup Registration Form

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

51<sup>st</sup> Annual  
Iron Range Get-Together  
May 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>  
Our Spiritual Journey

Location: Grand Rapids Eagles

1776 S Pokegama Ave. • Grand Rapids, MN 55744  
(218) 326-4845

Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

Join In  
"Tropical Short Night"  
6:30 pm - Registration Opens  
8:00 pm - Speaker: Paul G. Akron, OH

Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>

10:00 am - Outstate Panel  
1:00 pm - AFG Speaker: Kathy T. Duluth, MN  
3:00 pm - Call-up Meeting  
7:00 pm - AFG Speaker: Bruce K. Hibbing, MN  
8:00 pm - AA Speaker: Lisa G. Bloomington, MN  
??? till 11:00 pm - 7th Tradition Ice Cream Social

For more information contact: Jack at 218-341-7367 or Jake at 218-263-1510

Registration at the Door:

A.A., A.F.G., and Others - \$20.00 Alateen - \$6.00  
Or Pre-Register for \$18.00 with form on other side

Make checks payable to IRGT & Send to:  
IRGT P.O. Box 855 • Hibbing, MN 55746  
Iron Range Get-Together

St. Cloud Roundup's

Celebration  
of Recovery

Saturday, May 13, 2023

City Hope Church  
413 Franklin Ave NE, #0221  
St. Cloud, MN

7 p.m. Speaker  
Charlotte H., Al-Anon  
Hibbing, MN

8:30 p.m. Speaker  
Anna L., A.A.  
Granite Falls, MN

Ice Cream Social after speakers \$3.00

Pre-registration and Online (<http://www.stcloudroundup.org/form-761444.html>) tickets must be purchased  
by May 8, 2023.

Pre-registration and Online \$10.00  
At the door \$12.00

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM copy as needed

Information: 218-296-0670 • [stcloudroundup@gmail.com](mailto:stcloudroundup@gmail.com)

Make checks payable to: SCR

Mail to: St Cloud Roundup  
P.O. Box 125  
St. Cloud, MN 56302

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Online  
Pre-registration  
now available with  
PayPal.  
Visit:  
[www.stcloudroundup.org/form-761444.html](http://www.stcloudroundup.org/form-761444.html)

42<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
Keep It Simple Weekend  
Camp Chicagami on Pleasant Lake (South of Eveleth, Minnesota)  
Theme: Into Action  
August 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, & 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
WEEKEND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

\*\* NOTE: due to CAMP POLICY, there is NO ADMITTANCE into the camp prior to 5:30 PM Friday\*\*

FRIDAY	5:30 PM 6:30 PM 7:30 PM	REGISTRATION SUPPER Al-Anon Speaker - Gina D. (Superior, WI) AA Speaker - Angel I. (Gilbert, MN)
SATURDAY	8:00 AM 10:00 AM NOON 1:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM	Campfire Call-up Meeting to follow the speakers BREAKFAST AA Open Big Book Meeting Al-Anon Open Meeting LUNCH Recreation Time** SUPPER Al-Anon Speaker - Sherry G. (Bloomington, MN) AA Speaker - Evan H. (Grand Rapids, MN)
SUNDAY	8:30 AM 10:00 AM	Ice Cream Social to follow the speakers BREAKFAST AA Speaker - Nick M. (Blaine, MN)

Planning meeting for 2024 after speaker  
REGISTRATION

Adults Tent/Camper Pkg: 2 nights - 5 meals \$65.00 Adult Bunkhouse Pkg: 2 nights - 5 meals \$85.00 (Pkgs. include all meals, registration and lodging.)	Children Tent/Camper Package 2 nights & 5 meals 10 & under \$20.00 11-17 \$40.00 (includes all meals, reg, and lodging.)
General Admission (all events, not including meals. \$30.00 per weekend or \$10.00 per day.	Meals: \$8.00 each (payable before eating) Saturday Supper: \$10.00 per person.
Camping - \$10.00 per person per night (no hookups available) Bunkhouses - \$20.00 Per person per night. (Does not include general admission.)	All accommodation on a first come/first served basis. There is room for everyone! Pre-Registration is not necessary

Bring your own LAWN CHAIRS, BEDDING, FLASHLIGHTS, ETC.  
\*\* Activities include volleyball, basketball, canoeing, bocce ball,  
kayaking, fishing, hiking, campfire and lots of fellowship

For more info, call Dianna S. 559-433-7754 or Sam K. 218-780-8849

SORRY, NO PETS ALLOWED.

SATURDAY

Bean Bag

Tournament

Prizes

Awarded!!!



73rd General Service Conference Committees  
Agenda Items

I. Agenda

- A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2024 General Service Conference.
- B. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2024 General Service Conference.
- C. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2024 General Service Conference.
- D. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form, distribution process and 2022 Evaluation Summary.
- E. Discuss progress report on Conference improvement.
- F. Review feedback from Delegate Chairs on quarterly communications.
- G. Review a report and draft plan for a future Conference Inventory.

II. Cooperation with the Professional Community

- A. Review progress report on A.A.W.S. LinkedIn page.
- B. Review suggested revisions for the draft pamphlet “A.A. in Your Community.”
- C. Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlets for mental health professionals.
- D. Consider retiring the pamphlet “A Member’s-Eye View of Alcoholics Anonymous.”
- E. Review content and format of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.

III. Corrections

- A. Consider a request to include content in existing A.A. literature on sponsorship of persons in custody by outside members of the Fellowship.
- B. Review content and format of Corrections Kit and Workbook.
- C. Discuss service piece, “Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare” (SMF-209) and its revisions.

IV. Finance

- A. Consider request that materials produced and maintained by A.A. World Services, AA Grapevine, La Viña, and the General Service Office (GSO), clarify that the General Service Board (“GSB”) is the A.A. entity which receives all voluntary A.A. contributions and that GSO is the A.A. entity which performs the processing of all A.A. contributions.
- B. Review suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference.
- C. Review the Conference-approved level of \$10,000 for individual bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. members.
- D. Review the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution of \$5,000 to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member.
- E. Review Self-Support Packet.
- F. Discuss new proposed agenda items (PAI’s) regarding the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*.

V. Grapevine/La Viña

- A. Review AA Grapevine Workbook.
- B. Review progress report on the Grapevine and La Viña Instagram accounts.
- C. Consider the list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2024 or after.
- D. Consider a request to provide all area alternate delegates the same Conference materials as sitting delegates.

VI. Literature

- A. Annual review of recovery literature matrix.
- B. Review draft pamphlet based on A.A.’s Three Legacies.
- C. Review draft of the revised pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated.”
- D. Review draft of the revised pamphlet “Young People and A.A.”
- E. Review progress report regarding update of the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic.”
- F. Review progress report regarding update of the pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American.”
- G. Review progress report regarding development of a Fourth Edition of the book *Alcohólicos Anónimos* - Spanish.
- H. Review progress report regarding the translation of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* (Fourth Edition) into plain and simple language.

- I. Review progress report regarding development of a Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*.
- J. Review revised draft of the existing version of the pamphlet “Twelve Traditions Illustrated.”
- K. Review revised draft of the Literature Committee workbook.
- L. Review request to update the pamphlet “Do You Think You're Different?”
- M. Discuss new proposed agenda items (PAI’s) related to the Plain Language Big Book Translation.
- N. Review update on video animation for the pamphlet “The Twelve Concepts Illustrated.”
- O. Discuss cost effective media options that welcome young people to A.A. as an alternative to revising the ‘Too Young?’ pamphlet.
- P. Review update on the proposal for Big Book or *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* study guides.

VII. Policy/Admissions

- A. Review GSO general manager’s report regarding General Service Conference site selection.
- B. Review dates for the 2027 General Service Conference.
- C. Review progress report on the development of a process using virtual meeting technologies for polling the GSC between meetings.
- D. Discuss report on the Equitable Distribution of Workload process.
- E. Review report of the GSB Ad-Hoc Committee on Participation of Online Groups in the U.S./Canada Service Structure.

VIII. Public Information

- A. Review the 2023 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
- B. Public Service Announcements (PSAs):
  - 1. Review the distribution and tracking information for two video PSAs:
    - i. “Sobriety in A.A.: My Drinking Built a Wall”
    - ii. “Sobriety in A.A.: When Drinking is no longer a Party”
  - 2. Review the 2022 report on the “Relevance and Usefulness of Video PSAs.”
- C. Review progress report on the development of a GSO Podcast.
- D. Review report on “YouTube Performance.”
- E. Review report on “Google Ads Performance.”
- F. Review report on “Meeting Guide Performance.”
- G. Review the "2022 Third Quarter Report on A.A.W.S. Board Oversight of GSO’s A.A. website."
- H. Review report on “AAGV/La Viña Website, Marketing and Podcast."
- I. Review report for “Online Business Profiles.”
- J. Review report on analytics.
- K. Review progress report on the Young People’s Video Project.
- L. Discuss feasibility research on paid placement of PSA videos on streaming platforms.
- M. Discuss Public Information pamphlets/materials:
  - 1. Review progress report on revision to the flyer “A.A. at a Glance”
  - 2. Review progress report on revision to the pamphlet “Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings”
  - 3. Review progress report on revision to the flyer “A Message to Teenagers”
- N. Review progress report on the request to create a new form of communication to address anonymity on social media.
- O. Review report on 2022 A.A. Membership Survey process.
- P. Review report on 2022 A.A. Membership Survey results reporting.
- Q. Review content and format of P.I. Kit and Workbook.
- R. Consider request to implement an Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Instagram account.

IX. Report and Charter

- A. *The A.A. Service Manual, 2023-2025 Edition*:
  - 1. Review list of editorial updates.
  - 2. Consider the request to rescind the 2018 Advisory Action concerning a footnote in the resolution concerning “register” and “Groups.”
  - 3. Consider the request for specific changes to the 2021-2023 version of *The A.A. Service Manual*.



4. Review progress report from A.A.W.S. Publishing on a new section to be added at the end of the *Twelve Concepts for World Service* titled “Amendments.”
5. Review feasibility report of an ASL translation of *The A.A. Service Manual Combined with the Twelve Concepts for World Service*.
- B. Discuss General Service Conference *Final Report*.
- C. Consider posting an anonymity-protected Conference *Final Report* on aa.org.

## X. Treatment and Accessibilities

- A. Review progress report on update to the pamphlet “A.A. for the Older Alcoholic—Never too Late.”
- B. Review progress report on Military audio interviews.
- C. Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook.
- D. Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.
- E. Consider request to do an Accessibilities Inventory of Alcoholics Anonymous throughout its services and structure.
- F. Discuss carrying the message to alcoholics with intellectual or information processing challenges, communication challenges and diverse neurological abilities.
- G. Review progress report on Bridging the Gap Workbook and other service materials.
- H. Review progress report on update to the pamphlet “Bridging the Gap.”
- I. Review progress report on GSO’s Guidelines for Remote Communities.

## XI. Trustees

- A. Review resumes of candidates for:
  1. Northeast Regional Trustee
  2. Southwest Regional Trustee
  3. Trustee-at-Large/Canada
- B. Review slate of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
- C. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
- D. Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.

## XII. Archives

- ### A. Review content and format of Archives Workbook.

### XIII. International Conventions/Regional Forums

- A. Discuss selection of cities to be considered as a site for the International Convention in 2035.
- B. Discuss inviting up to twenty-one non-A.A. speakers to participate in the 2025 International Convention at A.A.'s expense.
- C. Discuss update report on methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention.
- D. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

**"Yes, we AAs were once a burden on everybody. We were "takers." Now that we are sober, and by the grace of God have become responsible citizens of the world, why shouldn't we now about-face and become 'thankful givers'? Yes, it is high time we did!"**

**AA Co-Founder, Bill W., June 1948**  
**"Tradition Seven" *The Language of the Heart***



## Area 35 General Service Conference Agenda Items Process

Greetings Area 35,

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

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

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

Thank you for your help.

## Agenda

### Deadline Dates

September 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 and sends them along with background information to the Area 35 Webmaster.

The Webmaster posts the material on our website (area35.org) with a protected password. The Delegate sends out an email to the Area 35 Committee with the password information, which is used to download the Agenda Items and background information off the Area 35 website.

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

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

Steve L.  
Area 35 Panel 72 Delegate  
delegate@area35.org  
(218) 780-0905

12 Traditions of  
Alcoholics Anonymous (Long Form)

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

12 Concepts of  
Alcoholics Anonymous (Short Form)

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





NORTHERN LIGHT PRIMARY PURPOSE:

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

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

- ◆ Provide encouragement for writing articles, particularly to D.C.M.s and Area Action Committee Chairs. This should include the strong encouragement to submit their reports for each issue, if no report is submitted it will be stated, example “Northern Light Report - NOT GIVEN” this is currently being done in the Southern Minnesota Area newsletter.
- ◆ Keep informed of activities and issues going on within Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. The N.L. Committee could subscribe 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 N.L.

EDITORIAL POSITION & N.L. COMMITTEE:

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

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

**N.L. COMMITTEE:** The N.L. Committee consists of the Area Group Records Chair, Area Webmaster and Area Audio Technician along with two D.C.M.s in Area 35. DCM’s are picked randomly at the start of each rotation and 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.

**N.L. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** The Committee meets every other month, before the start of the Area Workshop and at Spring and Fall Assemblies. If needed, additional meetings may be called.

NORTHERN LIGHT SUBMISSIONS:

General submissions are welcome! Feel free to send letters or articles that are pertinent to AA and Area 35. All submissions will be approved by the Northern Light committee, in accordance with Tradition Two; For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern. 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.

Please send submissions to [northernlight@area35.org](mailto:northernlight@area35.org) or my address on page 2. The deadline for each issue is printed on the front page.

All submissions should have a title. Please include the first name, last initial and city where the author is from. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted. 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, Heidi B

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 print version of the Northern Light, for the Northern Light Editor (remember this will change every 2 year rotation).
2. Email a .pdf version of your flier to [northernlight@area35.org](mailto:northernlight@area35.org) for approval. Upon approval a copy will be forwarded to the webmaster to be placed on the Area 35 websites calendar of events.
3. Upon approval mail to :

Cold Spring Record  
PO Box 456  
403 West Wind Court  
Cold Spring, MN 56320  
With an Attn: Northern Light on the mailing address  
Include a note stating they are to be inserted into the next Northern Light
4. **OR** if you wish to have Cold Spring Record print your fliers to be inserted into the Northern Light. The NL Editor will forward a copy of the pdf flier to Cold Spring Record, along with your printing instructions (paper color, one or two sided printing). Currently there are **1000 copies printed with 750 pieces to mail**. What is not mailed is passed out at the Area meetings and assemblies.

Number of Copies	Printing Costs		Insertion Fee	Total Cost
	1 Sided	2 Sided		
750	\$ 68	\$ 90	\$ 30	\$ 98/120
1000	\$ 90	\$ 120	\$ 30	\$ 120/150
5. The cost for having a flier inserted into the Northern Light is \$30. Make Checks payable to NMAA and mail to :

NMAA  
37258 Lakeland Rd  
Sturgeon Lake, MN 55783

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 for A.A. Sponsored Events only.
- ◆ Fliers needed—750 mailed only or 1000 for mailed and handouts.

Northern Light Deadlines for 2023 are as Follows:

- ◆ January 22<sup>nd</sup> : Flier will be included in the January/February Issue
- ◆ March 1<sup>st</sup> : Flier will be included in the March/April Issue
- ◆ April 30<sup>th</sup> : Flier will be included in the May/June Issue
- ◆ July 2<sup>nd</sup> : Flier will be included in the July/August Issue
- ◆ September 2<sup>nd</sup> : Flier will be included in the September/October Issue
- ◆ October 29<sup>th</sup> : Flier will be included in the November/December Issue



Area 35 Event Flyer Guidelines

To be included in the Northern Light, all flyers must answer the following questions.:

- Who is involved or sponsoring the event? Examples:
  - AA Group
  - District
  - Area
- What type of event is it? Please include itinerary. Examples:
  - An open or closed meeting
  - Speaker meeting
  - Call up meeting
  - Big Book meeting
  - Workshop with itinerary
  - Conference with itinerary
  - Fellowship (ice cream socials, potlucks, chili cook offs, etc.)
  - AA must appear somewhere on the flyer
- When is the event to take place?
  - 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 carry 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.

Only Area 35 AA members may submit a flier.  
Fliers for AA sponsored events only.

Please submit flyers in PDF format when possible. Flyers will be posted on area35.org and in the Northern Light at the Area 35 Webmaster's and Northern Light Editor's discretion. Email northernlight@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)

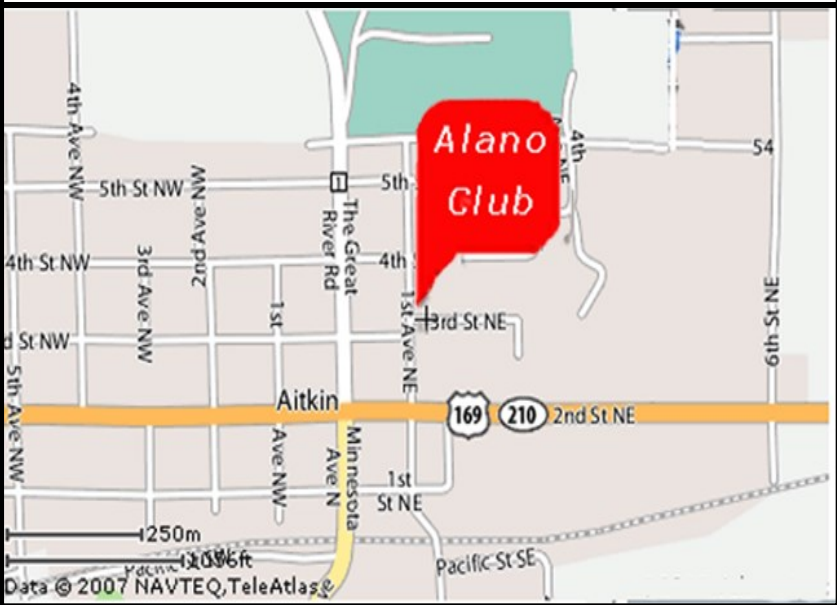
AREA 35 EVENTS  
INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

- Area Chair asks for weather reports from all DCMs from respective Districts, either by email or phone.
- Meeting format (virtual, in person or hybrid) is based on DOT report and national weather service, individual safety being paramount. Decisions will be made by 9pm the day before the meeting.
- Chair contacts webmaster with meeting format information (including any virtual links) which will be posted on area35.org
- Chair notifies the Alano Society in Aitkin on food preparations.
- Chair remains available and in close contact as they are the focal point and main contact; Chair must make the decision and be available for calls.
- Districts contact their DCM in inclement weather for updates on meeting format.

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



Volume XLI Issue 8		NORTHERN LIGHT		Created 1982	
March/April 2023				Page 19	
Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly					
OUR PAST DELEGATES					
<b>Panel 70</b> 2020-2021		<b>Panel 38</b> 1988-1989		<b>Panel 12</b> 1962-1963	
Jim S		Scott J		Donna T (deceased)	
<b>Panel 68</b> 2018-2019		<b>Panel 36</b> 1986-1987		<b>Panel 10</b> 1960-1961	
Christine G		Louie H		Bob B (deceased)	
<b>Panel 66</b> 2016-2017		<b>Panel 34</b> 1984-1985		<b>Panel 8</b> 1958-1959	
Kelly D		Bob P (deceased)		Pearl N (deceased)	
<b>Panel 64</b> 2014-2015		<b>Panel 32</b> 1982-1983		<b>Panel 6</b> 1956-1957	
Michael “Jake” J		Tom L (deceased)		Waldo H (deceased)	
<b>Panel 62</b> 2012-2013		<b>Panel 30</b> 1980-1981		<b>Panel 4</b> 1954-1955	
Jim K		Don M (deceased)		Wendell H (deceased)	
<b>Panel 60</b> 2010-2011		<b>Panel 28</b> 1978-1979		<b>Panel 2</b> 1952-1953	
Jon C		Garfield (Duffy) S (deceased)		Arthur R (deceased)	
<b>Panel 58</b> 2008-2009		<b>Panel 26</b> 1976-1977			
JoAnne M N		Vern R (deceased)			
<b>Panel 56</b> 2006-2007		<b>Panel 24</b> 1974-1975			
Jerry S		Gordon B. H (deceased)			
<b>Panel 54</b> 2004-2005		<b>Panel 22</b> 1972-1973			
Charlie C		Frank P. J (deceased)			
<b>Panel 52</b> 2002-2003		<b>Panel 20</b> 1970-1971			
Tim C		Clarence B (deceased)			
<b>Panel 50</b> 2000-2001		<b>Panel 18</b> 1968-1969			
Tom A		Dave H (deceased)			
<b>Panel 48</b> 1998-1999		<b>Panel 16</b> 1966-1967			
Susie A		Arno A (deceased)			
<b>Panel 46</b> 1996-1997		<b>Panel 14</b> 1964-1965			
Bill P (deceased)		Donald F (deceased)			
<b>Panel 44</b> 1994-1995					
Bruce B					
<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.

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>

AREA 35 SPRING ASSEMBLY  
April 1st and 2nd, 2023  
Holiday Inn, Alexandria, Mn

AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m. Registration
- 10:00 a.m. GSR Orientation & Action Chair Committee Meetings
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch (On Your Own)
- 1:00 p.m. Assembly Convenes
  - Call to Order-Open with the Serenity Prayer
  - Why We Need a Conference
  - Recognize Past Delegates
  - Recognize GSRs
  - Additions to Agenda
  - Approve 2022 Fall Assembly Minutes
- GSC Agenda Item Sharing Session I
  - Agenda
  - Cooperation With the Professional Community
  - Corrections
  - Finance
  - Grapevine
- 2:30 pm Break
  - Literature
  - Policy and Admissions
  - Public Information
  - Report and Charter
  - Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities
- 4:50 p.m. BREAK
- 5:00 p.m.
  - GSR Sharing Session
  - DCM Sharing Session
  - Area Officers and Area Chairs Meet
  - Closed AA meeting
- 6:00 P.M. Dinner (On Your Own)
- 7:30 P.M. Assembly Reconvenes
- GSC Agenda Item Sharing Session II
  - Trustees
  - Archives
  - International Conventions/Regional Forums
- OLD BUSINESS
  - Financial Oversight Committee Report – June ACM
  - Tabled motion: “Have Kyle move forward with Office 365 to connect DCMs, Area Officers, and Committee Members.”
  - Tabled Motion: “Area 35 will host ACMs virtually going forward and offer hybrid assemblies and workshops.”
  - Delegate Nomination Process Discussion
  - Other Area Officer Elections Process Discussion
  - Northern Light Content Discussion
  - Northern Light Digital Discussion
  - Ad-Hoc Technology Committee - Web
  - Statewide Corrections – Corrections
  - State Fair Booth – PI

- Archives Committee Policy Discussion
- Area Finances
- NEW BUSINESS:
- Calendar of Events
- SUNDAY
- 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Big Book Meeting
- 9:00 a.m. Assembly Reconvenes
- \*\*\*Finish Business/Reports (If Any)
- OFFICER REPORTS
  - Delegate – Steve L
  - Alternate Delegate – Justin W
  - Chair – Christine G
  - Secretary – Sally L
  - Treasurer – Vicki R
- COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS
  - WEBMASTER – Kyle H
  - NORTHERN LIGHT – Heidi B
  - District 3 – Melvin S
  - GROUP RECORDS – Denise R
  - CPC – Greg C
  - District 18 – Scott S
  - District 15 – Lisa M
  - LITERATURE – Pat M
  - District 12 – Terry A
  - District 5 – Jarrin V
  - District 16 – Dave C
  - TREATMENT – Ricco R
  - District 6 – Julie N
  - District 7 – Bob N
  - ARCHIVIST – Marc N
  - ARCHIVES – Renell P
  - District 11 – Kathy M
  - District 14 -
  - CORRECTIONS –
  - District 9 - Diane R
  - District 8 - Heather L
  - PUBLIC INFORMATION - Nels P
  - District 2 – Dave N
  - District 4 – James W
  - GRAPEVINE – Mike U
  - District 1 -
  - District 13 – Jim R
  - District 21 – Jennifer T
  - GSR Sharing Session Report
  - DCM Sharing Session Report
  - Officer/Action Chair Session Report
  - Ask It Basket (Past Delegates)
  - Adjourn



\*\*\*\*\*Note - NEW AREA TREASURER ADDRESS\*\*\*\*\*



Mail Area 35 Group contributions to: NMAA  
37258 Lakeland Rd  
Sturgeon Lake, MN 55783

Please remember to include your group service number on all contributions.  
This will ensure that your contributions get credited to your group.