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December 30, 2023

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, Ironton, Isanti, Isle, Keewatin, Kelly Lake, Kensington, Kimball, Knife River, Lake Henry, Lake Lena, Lake Park, Lawrence Lake, Little Falls, Littlefork, Long Prairie, Longville, Lutsen, Mahnomen, Mahtowa, Malmo, McGregor, Melrose, Menahga, Middle River, Milaca, Moorhead, Moose Lake, Mora, Morris, Motley, Mountain Iron, Nashwauk, Naytahwaush, Nett Lake, Nisswa, North Branch, Ogilvie, Onigum, Orr, Osage, Osakis, Otsego, Ottertail, Palisade, Palo, Park Rapids, Parkers Prairie, Paynesville, Pelican Rapids, Pequot Lakes, Perham, Pierz, Pike, Pike Lake, Pillager, Pine City, Pine River, Princeton, Proctor, Quamba, Rainy River, Red Lake, Red Lake Falls, Remer, Rice, Richmond, Rock Creek, Roseau, Rush City, Sandstone, Sartell, Sauk Centre, Sauk Rapids, Sawyer, Shevlin, Side Lake, Silver Bay, Solway, Squaw Lake, St. Cloud, St. Francis, St. Joseph, St. Stephen, Stacy, Staples, Stephen, Superior, Thief River Falls, Toivola, Tower, Twin Valley, Two Harbors, Underwood, Verndale, Virginia, Wadena, Wahkon, Waite Park, Walker, 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>

Volume XLI Issue 12 Nov/Dec 2023		NORTHERN LIGHT Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly		Created 1982 Page 2			
2022-23 AREA 35 COMMITTEE							
<u>AREA OFFICERS</u> <u>DELEGATE</u> Steven L delegate@area35.org <u>ALT DELEGATE</u> Open alt_delegate@area35.org <u>AREA CHAIR</u> Christine G areachair@area35.org <u>TREASURER</u> Vicki R treasurer@area35.org <u>SECRETARY</u> Sally L secretary@area35.org <u>AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRS</u> <u>ARCHIVES</u> Renell P archives@area35.org <u>ARCHIVIST</u> Marc N archivist@area35.org <u>AUDIO ENGINEER</u> Christina H <u>(CPC) COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY</u> Greg C cpc@area35.org <u>CORRECTIONS</u> Mark R corrections@area35.org <u>FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE</u> Jim S <u>GRAPEVINE</u> Mike U grapevine@area35.org		<u>GROUP RECORDS</u> Denise R grouprecords@area35.org <u>LITERATURE</u> Pat M literature@area35.org <u>NORTHERN LIGHT</u> Heidi B northernlight@area35.org <u>PUBLIC INFORMATION</u> Nels P pi@area35.org <u>TREATMENT</u> Ricco R treatment@area35.org <u>WEBMASTER</u> Kyle H webmaster@area35.org <u>(D.C.M.'s) DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS</u> <u>DISTRICT 1</u> No information dcm1@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 2</u> No information dcm2@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 3</u> Melvin S dcm3@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 4</u> James W dcm4@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 5</u> Jarrin V dcm5@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 6</u> Julie N dcm6@area35.org		<u>DISTRICT 7</u> Robert N dcm7@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 8</u> Heather L dcm8@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 9</u> Diane R dcm9@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 11</u> Kathy M dcm11@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 12</u> Terry A dcm12@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 13</u> Jim R dcm13@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 14</u> No information dcm14@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 15</u> Lisa M dcm15@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 16</u> Dave C dcm16@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 17</u> No information dcm17@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 18</u> Scott S dcm18@area35.org <u>DISTRICT 21</u> Jennifer T dcm21@area35.org			
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The <i>Northern Light</i> is a confidential document, meant only for AA members. It contains members’ full names and addresses. This usage does not in any way violate our Tradition of anonymity to the public communications media. Names, phone numbers, addresses, and email addresses may not be used for any solicitation purposes. The articles and opinions expressed herein are strictly the personal opinions of those expressing them.							



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, Goodland, Hill City, Lawrence Lake*, Longville, Remer
- District 21** - Akeley, Bagley, Bemidji, Blackduck, Cass Lake, Debs, Menahga, Onigum, Park Rapids, Red Lake, Shevlin, Solway, Squaw Lake, Walker

Zone II

- District 3** - Audubon, Barnesville, Battle Lake, Cormorant, Deer Creek, Detroit Lakes, Dilworth, Elizabeth, Erhard, Fergus Falls, Frazee, Hawley, Henning, Lake Park, Moorhead, Osage, Ottertail, Pelican Rapids, Perham, Underwood, Wadena

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

District Meeting Location Information

District 1

2nd Sunday of even months, 2:00 p.m.
Fertile Community Center
101 S Mill Street
Fertile, MN 56540

District 2

1st Sunday of odd months, 3:00 p.m.
Thief River Falls Alano Club
614 Davis Ave
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

District 3

3rd Sunday of month, 12:00 p.m.
Perham Alano Club
43452 County Hwy 34
Perham, MN 56573

District 4

3rd 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

3rd Monday of month, 7 p.m.
(use side door that opens to parking lot)
Trinity Lutheran Church
111 N 6th Ave
Princeton, MN 55371

District 6

3rd Thursday of month, 7:00 p.m.
Spring Lake Lutheran Church
8440 Erickson Rd NE
North Branch, MN 55056

District 7

3rd Thursday of month, 7:00 p.m.
First Congregational United Church
415 Juniper Street
Brainerd, MN 56401

District 8

Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m.
General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Day and location rotate.
Contact DCM for info.

District 9

Last Sunday of month, 6:00 p.m.
Hibbing Alano Club
3725 1st Avenue
Hibbing, MN 55746

District 11

1st Tuesday of month, 7:00 p.m.
Peace Lutheran
2177 Hwy 18
Finlayson, MN 55735

District 12

3rd Thursday of month, 6:30 p.m.
1100 E Superior Street
Duluth, MN
Handicap Accessible

District 13

1st Monday of month, 7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
St. Cloud Alano Club
127 7th Ave NE
Saint Cloud, MN 56301

District 14

3rd Thursday of month, 6:30pm
Coffee Landing
444 3rd Street
International Falls, MN 56649

District 15

1st Monday of month, 7:00 p.m.
Albany Community Center
741 Lake Ave
Albany, MN 56307

District 16

1st Wednesday of month, 6:30 p.m.
United Methodist Church
1701 SE 5th Ave
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Handicap Accessible

District 17

Not currently active or unknown

District 18

1st Tuesday of month, 6:00 p.m.
Long Prairie Alano Club
21 2nd Ave
Long Prairie, MN 56347

District 21

2nd Monday of month, 7:00 p.m.
Bemidji Alano Club
3802 Greenleaf Ave NW
Bemidji, MN 56601

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, 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)

Northern Minnesota Area Assembly
Area 35 Fall Assembly Minutes
St. Cloud, MN
October 7-8, 2023

Call to Order: Area Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 7, 2023, and opened with the Serenity Prayer. There were 105 people in attendance.

Recognition of Past Delegates In Attendance: Area 35 – Bob J, Panel 40; Tim C, Panel 52; Charlie C, Panel 54; Jim K, Panel 62; Jake J, Panel 64; Kelly D, Panel 66; Area 36 – Scott A, Panels 57 and 59

Additions to Agenda: January Workshop Registration Fee; Election Process; Area 35 Website Upgrade; Treasurer Electronic Payments

Approval of April 2023 Spring Assembly Minutes: Heidi B. motioned to approve the minutes; Kyle H. seconded. Motion carried.

Points of Order: Please limit sharing at the mic to two minutes, and please refrain from crosstalk.

OFFICER REPORTS
DELEGATE – STEVEN L
Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen,
It is nice to see everybody here. How many here are attending their first Assembly? Take time to say howdy and shake hands with the people next to you. This is my last report to the full Assembly. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Delegate these past two years. I’ve enjoyed traveling to your Districts. Meeting and getting to know you all has been a pleasure. We have had some robust discussions with the pre- and post-GSC agenda items and a few differences of opinion, it’s been great, and I’ve loved every minute of it. The hospitality and warmth you have shown me will be unforgettable. It has been a joy and humbling experience to bring the Areas voice to the GSC. It’s been an honor and privilege being chosen to sit and participate in the Conference Literature Committee in this monumental time in Alcoholics Anonymous. I enjoyed bringing back to you the full scuttlebutt from the General Service Conference.

Thank you for sending me to the WCRF in Missoula Mt. in August. I gave a full report in the NL for you to look at. We had about a dozen people from Area 35 in attendance, which I thought was a tremendous turnout, considering the distance. If you talk with the people who attended, you will get different perspectives on the event. I thought it was very informative. In November I will attend District 2’s District meeting in Thief River Falls and give my final post-GSC report.

Just another reminder that the GV’s app is out in both formats iOS and Android. The download is free for partial use. If you want full access to the app which gives you the ability to read the current GV and access the GV Archives, this will cost you \$2.99 a month, which you may cancel at any time.

Speaking of the new AA Grapevine App, it was a topic of discussion at the last WCR Delegates meeting. The cost of producing the app was brought up. A couple of Delegates were under the impression and in their reports gave the cost of the app to be over \$1m, \$500k from the reserve fund, and another \$670k from the Subscription Liability Fund. In reality, the cost for the GV app development was \$400k; Podcast, Instagram, and YouTube were \$100K making a total of \$500k from the reserve fund. The \$670K that Grapevine took from its Subscription Liability Fund is for normal operating expenses: printing, mailing, payroll, etc., to get us through our low print subscriptions in 2023 until app subscriptions build. We also heard from Area 40, Montana, that the WCRF was highly informative and it got a lot of people excited about service work in their Area. I’m also finishing up my WCR subcommittee duties. We put together a presentation for an introduction to WCRAASC to be presented Friday before the Conference starts in lieu of the paper trifold pamphlet that has been passed out in the past.

Here are a few other topics we discussed at the last WCR Delegates meeting: Meg the Southern Minn. Delegate inquired about an update to the Trustee’s nominating committee with their work on selecting a Board Chair for the 2024 slate of Trustees? Kerry M., WCR point of Contact, responded that there are 3 finalists (she does not know who they are yet). The Board is going to NYC a day early in October to interview the candidates, then they will vote sometime over that weekend and at the end of the October Board weekend, there should be a nominee for a new GSB Chairperson. Rachel N Dakota Delegate asked if they were going to use all the \$15,000 approved for finding a new GSB Chair. Kerry responded, the contract was drafted for much less than that, but does not know how the true cost.

The 2023 General Service Conference reports are on the back literature table with Pat. Please take one so Pat doesn’t have to bring any home with him. There is also an anonymity protected version online at aa.org. It was brought up at the last WCR Delegates meeting that The Final Conference Report claims there is an advisory action to allow alternate delegates to have the same access to the dashboard as the Delegates have, that ‘advisory action’ did not get substantial unanimity, so I think the Final Conference Report has an error. The answer Kerry received about the alternate delegate vote reporting issue was this. In 1989 the following statements were made as Advisory Actions “Although the following item did not receive the necessary two-thirds vote to become a Conference recommendation, it did receive a substantial majority and is therefore a strong suggestion for the board’s consid-

eration”. Now labeled as passed by simple majority as a signal to Trustees Committees. Based on the confusion labeling this as “passed” in the final report, Kerry will send a formal memo to the Conference Committee Chair to change how similar votes are labeled in future Final Conference Reports.

After being promised for the past six months I finally received printouts by District, Group contributions to the GSB for the 2nd Quarter. The glitch is fixed. I emailed them to all the DCMs to look at, so they can see and share how their District is contributing to the GSB. The report lists 1,140 Groups registered in Area 35. Of these it had 93 Groups contributing to the GSB which is only 8.16% of Groups sending contributions. In reality we have about 560 active Groups in Area 35 and with 93 contributing to the GSB then the percentage changes to 16.61% of the Groups contributing to the GSB for the 2nd quarter. I hope the DCMs will look at the list I sent them and get hold of Denise, our Group Records Secretary and see what we can do to correct the discrepancy in the Group count for Area 35.

Speaking of emails, we have Microsoft 365 now. The first batch of emails I sent most came back undeliverable. People hadn’t set up their new email accounts, I hadn’t. With this new tool we want to get the most from it we are going to offer training sessions to the incoming Offices and Action Chairs. Look and listen for more details on the training.

I mentioned in my last Northern Light report about a mystery announcement. While attending a GSC fall online meeting, during the PI Trustee’s report, she mentioned that Google Ads and AA are parting ways. The separation was initiated by Google and is about 85% complete. Google Ads stated that we don’t fit their definition to qualify for their subsidy.

I attended the tri-District workshop in Hibbing two weeks ago. It was put on by Districts 8, 9 and 16. I’ll let the DCMs from those Districts comment on how it went. All I know is the two people I brought, who had never attended a workshop before, enjoyed it and sparked their interest in service work. There are fliers at the registration table about the upcoming 2024 WCRAASC being held in Minot, ND March 1st – 3rd. Minot is hosting the state girls’ basketball tournament that same weekend. Book a room Grand Hotel quickly to insure you get a room in the same Hotel as the Conference if you know you will be attending the WCRAASC. Grand Hotel, 1505 N Broadway, Minot, ND 701-852-3161 I Repeat 701-852-3161

My rotation as your Delegate is coming to an end. Tomorrow, we pick a new slate of officers to lead us for the next two years. Please, give them the same warmth and support you have shown me over the past two years. I have had the pleasure of serving Area 35 for the past 14 years as, Webmaster, Treasurer, F.O.C. chair, NL Editor, Alt-Delegate and finishing up as your Delegate. All have been a learning and humbling experience. Having said this, I’m not accepting any nominations to stand for any office tomorrow. As they say, I’m going out to pasture, and a new learning experience is waiting for me, keeping my mouth shut and being called on if needed, it’s called being an Elder Statesman, this could be the toughest challenge and greatest learning experience for me in sobriety.

As I’ve gotten to know and listen to so many of you and experience talking with other Delegates on how their Areas conduct business, A lot of things I’ve heard wouldn’t fly in Area 35, but three things stand out that I’d like to suggest to you that could improve Area 35’s effectiveness.

First: We use a secret ballot for all voting at an Assembly, not just elections. I know this would slow down the business at an Assembly, by contrast, a secret ballot would preserve the integrity of the minority opinion. It would give those voters who are undecided an opportunity to vote without any peer pressure. This would refer to Assemblies only, not ACMs in Aitkin that’s another matter to be decided for the ACMs.

Second: Only voting members of the Assembly would be able to participate in discussion at the mic. This is how business is done at the Conference. Others could be invited by a voting member to join in the discussion at the mic if that person has pertinent information about technical, historical, or procedural knowledge of the topic at hand. This would give the GSRs, Area officers and Area Committee Chairs the ultimate authority and decision in both discussion and voting in Area and AA affairs. It would also help with each Group having only one voice in Area and AA affairs.

Third: Have the June ACM become a one-day Assembly. This way, the Delegate could give their post-GSC report to the whole Area at once. The Assembly could be in a central location so everyone could make the round trip in one day. This meeting would be a few hours long, starting at one in the afternoon. We could provide an opportunity for committee meetings to take place before the Assembly starts. This could save the Area a lot of money in Delegate travel costs. This could also provide GSRs a timely manner to receive GSC information. If a group wanted to Propose an Agenda Item for the next GSC the Area would have a few months to discuss the PAI fully.

I hope you will take my suggestions back to your groups to give them some more consideration. It has been a blast visiting and getting to know you. I will be forever thankful for the opportunity you have given me to serve as your Delegate. My journey with you is waning and I’m looking forward to answering questions put in future ask-it baskets. With that, I pass.

In service,
Steven L

ALTERNATE DELEGATE –

Greetings Area 35, The January Service Workshop is set for January 13-14, 2024, to be held at this same location, the River’s Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud. Flyers were included in the last issue of the Northern Light and there are some copies available on the back table.

Our theme for 2024 is "Connecting with Love, Unity, and Service.” Due to time constraints, we have asked Area 36 Alternate Delegate, Carla N, to be our guest. Per Area 35 action book, under Alternate Delegate Trusted Servant guidelines, page 66, it states that as we prepare for the workshop, selection includes but may not be limited to inviting guests such as a trustee, GSO staff member, etc.

Past Delegate, Kelly D., has asked 8 districts to present. Those districts are: 5,6,7,9,11,12,13 and 15 and she has asked that they see her over the weekend so she can give them their topic and instructions on doing the presentations.

In Unity and Service,
Christine G.

CHAIR – CHRISTINE G

Greetings Area 35, Since my report in the latest issue of the Northern Light, I have been preparing for this assembly and finalizing for the next rotation.

- Spring Assy 2024 - Crookston at the Crookston Inn – flyer is on the table
- Fall Assy 2024 – Alexandria at the Holiday Inn
- Spring Assy 2025 – River's Edge Convention Center – St. Cloud
- Fall Assy 2025 - Still working on.

Coffee is expensive here and if you are willing to give a little more to help support the coffee expense, that would be greatly appreciated. We are paying about \$50/gallon includes taxes, sub charges, gratuities, and service fees. This is the same price we paid in Duluth at the 2023 January Service Workshop. Also, we will be on a schedule with refilling coffee. I hope it all works out.

I continue to work with Past Delegate, Kelly D., as we finalize details for the Service Workshop held January 14-15 at the River’s Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud. I will be having the theme banner made up soon.

Ad hoc committee meeting met on 8/29/23 and 9/15/23. They are tasked with identifying the primary purpose of aaminnesota.org and what should be included on the website. They will have another meeting coming in October and may bring forward recommendations to the areas after they have met.

Area 35 Corrections Chair has sent out emails to DCMs regarding women being released in the upcoming months to specified areas. He is looking for women to be contacts for these women getting released into their communities. Please respond to his emails so he knows that you have received them. Also, let him know whether or not there are women who are willing to “Bridge the Gap” from institution to AA.

I attended the Tri District Workshop for districts 8, 9, and 16. I would like to thank the districts for inviting me and for all the wonderful fellowship and food. All the presentations were great and it was nice to see a good turnout. There were about 35 people in attendance. I presented on Robert’s Rules of Order, Third Legacy voting procedure and shared a little bit about my story and service work.

I have asked our Delegate if he would be willing to hold the DCM Orientation at our January Workshop and he accepted.

I would like to thank you all for allowing me to serve as your area chair, this is the last assembly that I will serve in this capacity. It has been both challenging and rewarding at the same time. Thank you for your grace and understanding as I navigated through this process and stumbled along the way. If there is anything I can leave you with, is continue to give grace, kindness, and love to our trusted servants. This is a thankless journey and we are all here to ensure that AA is here for the generations to come. We do the best that we can with the knowledge and experience we have when we come into these positions. I wish you all the best in your upcoming service journey.

In Unity and Service,
Christine G

SECRETARY – SALLY L

Greetings, Area 35. I have begun working in the minutes already. I have started thinking about working on the Action Book updates. I enjoyed presenting at the GSR Orientation. It was great to see so many GSRs! Reports are due to me by Monday, October 16th. Please send them via email. I have enjoyed serving as your secretary this rotation. Thank you very much for all your help and patience, and for allowing me to serve.

Sally L

TREASURER – VICKI R

Hello! Group finances through 9/30/23:

<u>YTD</u>	
Group Contributions	\$41,412
Birthday/Other	<u>\$17,553</u>
Total	\$58,965

Total Expenses	<u>\$(38,924)</u>
Net Income	\$ 20,041

PD 5 - 8/1/23 – 9/30/23

Group Contributions	\$7,834
Birthday/Other	<u>\$3,373</u>
Total	\$11,207
Expense	<u>\$(5,438)</u>
Net Income	\$ 5,769

.
Aug group contributions was \$2,744, previous high was 4,057
Sep group contributions was \$2,881, previous high was \$3,216

216 (up from 195 end of July) groups have contributed through Sep 30,
41 =>\$300 or 19%.
27 =>\$400 or 13%

Another perspective is that 18 districts currently contribute to the Area. To meet the projected \$88,457 budget, each would need to contribute \$4,914.

Grapevine sales and purchases:
Sales: \$1,077 – purchases: \$926 = 151 More sold than purchased.
Literature sales and purchase:
Sales: \$9,929 – purchase: \$10,210 = (\$281) More purchased than sold.

The budgeted income is \$42,000; minus \$33,428 leaving \$8,572 to take in the rest of the year.

Cash projections:

Register balance at 9/30/23:	\$28,175
Expected receipts Oct-Dec:	\$ 9,302
Expected expenses Aug/Sep	<u>\$(12,707)</u>
Net cash on Sep 30:	\$24,770

Projections are my best guess based on information at hand, they may or may not be accurate.

I’ve sent the July, August, and September files to the Financial Oversight Committee for review.

Yours in service,
Vicki R

COMMITTEE CHAIR & DCM REPORTS

CPC – GREG C

My name is Greg Cabana, and I am an alcoholic and your Area 35 CPC chair.

Before I got involved in service work, I was in sales for 40 years. And I had some words of wisdom that I learned to apply to my customers over the years. It goes like this:

You cannot help others unless you understand the person you are trying to help. You must do all you can to understand others. You must study their backgrounds, their likes and dislikes, their reactions, and the prejudices. Find the “need” that they themselves might not even know they have; and be the one who can fill that.

After a number of years working PI and CPC at both the District and Area levels, I have tried to apply this model to the various entities and professionals that I have encountered. And after much study, many group meetings and extensive individual feedback, I have developed the impression that what most professionals and professional groups “need” is how to find us. I am constantly amazed at the degree to which most of them actually KNOW the basic tenets and working parts of the AA program. They don’t “need” more speeches and brochures as much as they simply want to know where and how to find meetings and expanded information on the program that they can re-source electronically.

I’ve shared this model with several Districts over the past two years and hope to return to my home District to further apply this model in that 5-county area in the coming years. My fire was lit for service work when I first came to an event like this Assembly a number of years ago. And that passion is still there. Thanks for your support in the past and I hope to keep working with many of you in the future.

Yours in service,
Greg C

DISTRICT 18 – SCOTT S

Verbal report given by Rick, Alt. DCM

DISTRICT 15 – LISA M

No report.

LITERATURE – PAT M

Verbal report given by Pat M

DISTRICT 12 – TERRY A

Greetings from District 12, our District 12 hosted a booth at the Health and Human Services Conference held October 11&12 at the DECC. This is an annual event in which we can connect with Social Workers and Health Care Workers giving them Meeting Directories, pamphlets, and Bridging the Gap brochures to assist them with connecting new alcoholics with our recovery programs.

We are getting a lot of hits on our Website: twinportsaa.org. This year we will be looking at putting ads in local neighborhood flyers and newsletters
(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

verses doing billboards, which we did earlier this year. The message with remain the same, stating: "If you drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, we can help" It will include the website & Intergroup phone number.

This is the first year that we have had a budget to work off of. We stayed within \$24 of our projected budget. Our GSR's are taking this budget to their groups and showing them how the money that each group is contributing is being put to work to help the still suffering alcoholic.

Yours In Service,
Terry A

DISTRICT 5 – JARRIN V

Hello everyone, I'm Jarrin V, DCM for district 5. We have our regular business meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month at Trinity Lutheran Church at 7:00 p.m. in Princeton. Over the past couple of years we have had all of our chair positions filled and a fair amount of gsr's. Not nearly the amount of gsr's that I would hope to see for the amount of groups that we have in our district. As years go by hopefully that continues to improve. We have our upcoming elections set to happen in the next month or so, and I think there are nominees for every one of the chair positions and hopefully even a few alternates. I'd like to mention in the last year I believe there has been three new meetings that have started in district 5. So that's good to see more growth in Alcoholics Anonymous. I guess I really don't have whole lot to report on other than the time that I spent as DCM has been amazing. I started out with the thought I've only got 23 district meetings until this is over and today I'm looking at I've only got three more district meetings left to be a part of. That's the way it usually goes for me in the beginning. I'm scared and not sure if I'll be able to fulfill my obligation, and at the end of it I'm wishing that it wasn't ending. The things I've been able to do I believe have been possible due to the great amount of help I've had with the group of people that fill the chair positions in our district. Everyone is really good about helping one another out whether it be with the county fair with our treatment obligations with our corrections obligations and trying to spread the message about where to find literature and get that to the groups that need it. It's all a team effort and I hope the continues to be that way in district 5. And we can maybe someday be able to share throughout the area things that we have learned as we've grown. I'm also very happy to say that I'm very thankful for having the opportunity to have served the role of DCM for the past rotation and look forward to seeing the next group come through. I learned a lot about the spirit of rotation and how important it is to see these things unfold and see new faces come into play and continue to carry the message and spread the word of alcoholics anonymous to the places that need it.

Yours in service,
Jarrin V

WEBMASTER – KYLE H

Verbal report given by Kyle H

NORTHERN LIGHT – HEIDI B

There were 7 present in our committee meeting this morning. We discussed Office 365, audio tech needs and updating the trusted servant guidelines in the Actions Book.

Please remember that each Area Committee Chair and Officer has two reports to submit – one is for the minutes during the Assembly, the other is due Oct 29th and should state what you've done since Fall Assembly. This second report should be sent to me and will be included in the next Northern Light.

We have one Northern Light issue left for this rotation! Thank you for trusting me with this position. I've learned so much, including a lesson in humility. It's very humbling making a mistake that 700+ people will see. Thank you for the opportunity to serve our Area.

I sent the following via email to our Area Chair the week before Fall Assembly, regarding my standing for Delegate in the Fall Assembly Elections - Some of you may not have received this, so I am including this in my report: In lieu of my husband's (Nels P – Area PI Chair) recent medical challenges, I am sorry to say that I am unable to stand for delegate at the upcoming area elections. I was very honored and humbled to have been asked and was looking forward to the possibility of being elected. And then in September, Nels was diagnosed with Blastomycosis in his central nervous system. We know his recovery will be lengthy and I can't stand for such an important position as Delegate when there are so many unknowns in the next year. Thank you all for the opportunity. And thank you for the continued prayers, love, and support for both Nels and I.

In Service,
Heidi B

DISTRICT 3 – MELVIN S

Hello Area 35, District 3 was happy to have a visit from Greg C. Area 35 CPC chair at our September 17th district meeting. He gave an excellent presentation and seemed to motivate the district which has not had a CPC chair in a long time, so thanks again Greg for the visit.

We were so involved in the CPC discussion that we did not get around to talking about chair rotations and voting, so we are a bit behind in that respect and that will be on the agenda for this month. We are getting a little more interest in the district by groups and have seen a few more groups send in 7th tradition contributions too. We have four clubhouses in the district and all, but one is having building maintenance money issues.

Corrections are beginning to finally start moving. We were getting some

resistance from the people in charge of jails. We now just need to start the screening for volunteers. Treatment is moving along, and we have a new contact in Fergus Falls. Literature sales are slow.

The Round Robin speaker meetings are doing very well. We had 85 attendees at the September Perham meeting! Detroit Lakes Monday Eye Openers and Friday Noon Group will host the October 28th Round Robin.

In Service,
Melvin S

GROUP RECORDS – DENISE R

Greetings Area 35, I attended the Area Registrar Quarterly Sharing Session with Karina GSO Group Services Coordinator, staff members of the Group Services Desk, Lorna from the A.A.W.S. Data Integrity Project, and others. There was much discussion on our task of cleaning up the database of "unknown" groups. Discussions on meetings vs. Groups, not every group is a home group. Some groups are meetings and GSO does not list meetings. I am being reminded that if a group does not want to be involved in the service structure of AA, does not want to have a vote and a voice in AA as a whole, or does not want to receive communications from GSO, they should not be listed as a group with the General Service Office. As of this writing we have 482 Active Regular Groups listed in Area 35 and I wonder if maybe some of these groups might fit that description.

With the help of DCM's and other District members we have been able to reduce our list of "unknown" groups to 6 and should be able to clean it up to 0 shortly. As you know we were tasked as part of the A.A.W.S. Data Integrity Project to complete this by September 29th and I believe we have done a great job. Thank you to all that have helped in this. I am sure there will be more tasks asked of the Area Registrars to continue this project.

I attended the Microsoft 365 training, thank you Kyle and Christine for this opportunity!

I continue to participate on the Ad Hoc committee working with Area 36 reviewing aaminnesota.org.

Other than that, I complete any Group Record changes and new Group Forms sent in as well as keeping the Northern Light mailing list up to date. As always if you move or no longer want to receive the Northern Light Newsletter, please let me know. You can send all information to grouprecords@area35.org.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Denise R

DISTRICT 16 – DAVE C

Hi, I'm Dave and I'm an alcoholic, and district 16 DCM. 16 is doing well we helped with the tri- district workshop, a big thank you to Christine for her help. Another event in the district is the Tuesday night Solutions 18th annual open speaker meeting November 11th with potluck starting at 5:30. Hope to see you there. Flyers are on the back table. Yours in service Dave C

TREATMENT – RICCO R

On 8/21/2023 I picked up the Bridging the Gap Brochures from the printer for the rotating 2024 Area 35 Treatment Committee. I will drop them off at the 12/3/23 ACM meeting in Aitkin. I had some money in my budget and now the new committee will have Brochures for 2024 and 2025 rotation. I was going to print 1000 brochures at 22 cents apiece like before, and asked the printer how much it would cost to print 2000 brochures. She pondered it for a little bit and said 12 and ½ cents apiece. So now we got a ton of brochures at close to ½ price.

The brochures have been updated and now have a QR code on them so it will be easier for the treatment centers or anyone to access our Bridging the Gap brochure and forms off of our Area 35 Website.

I attended the Tri District Workshop on 9/23/2023, (Districts 8, 16, and 9) The workshop was well attended and was basically newcomers to service in A.A. that did the presentations of all the positions in the district. They all did a fantastic job. Rolene from district 8 gave a wonderful presentation on service sponsors. Our Area 35 Chair, Christine presented the Roberts Rules of Order, The Third legacy procedure and her service story, and did a splendid job of it.

Glenn M. Treatment Chair District 16 has been finding 7 speakers a month to speak at treatment centers in District 16.

Statewide Treatment Report: The Statewide Treatment Committee has been meeting once a month. Patrick the Treatment Facilities Chair Area 36 has made up a folder and a spreadsheet for the committee to have the contact information and any other information the committee will need to save and refer to in the future. It is very well put together and will be a vital tool for the committee to keep track and archive the committee's information for future committees down the road.

So far, the committee has all the guidelines for the Statewide Treatment committee up to date and ready for the rotation to happen.

Area 35 Fall Assembly 7/8 2023: We had 7 members present Josh P., Janet, Julie N. All three from District 6, Peggy M. District 13, Bob N. District 7, Kathy District 11, Ricco Area 35 Treatment Chair. Among other discussions, the one that was most concerning was the slow action on the Bridging the Gap Program. It appears the treatment centers are not using the BTG Program to get their clients involved with AA after discharge

from treatment but are holding on to the clients and using their own after-care programs instead. It might be that we as AA members in service must go and present the BTG Program to the treatment centers on a personal visit to express the urgency to start attending AA as soon as possible after the clients complete their treatment program. We will be discussing this concern at future Treatment committee meetings. Ricco R

DISTRICT 6 – JULIE N

Hello from district 6. This past summer has been filled with our normal routine. We have made it out to a few meetings spreading the love with tailgating. We have had a lot of new groups getting involved and sending GSR's to the district. It truly makes my heart full watching district 6 unfold and grow. They're involved in each group for coming together.

I attended the West Central Forum and it was wonderful. We had nine people from our district go and learn the structure of GSO and meeting a lot of Alcoholics in our region. We just put a step study workshop on this past month. What an experience we had. We had 48 in attendance looking forward to November as we are all rotating in the district. I am OK with God's plan and will do whatever he wants me to do. I can't wait to see where our future is heading. We look forward to the workshop in January and to be of service. One last thing, we had a former DCM, Todd Estis, pass away this week and would like to invite friends to Strike Funeral Home on October 11th, 2023, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Thank you everyone in our Area for supporting us and having fun with us. See you all soon at the January workshop.

With lots of love,
Julie N

DISTRICT 7 – ROBERT N

Verbal report given by Bob N

ARCHIVIST – MARC N

Hi, I'm Marc, an alcoholic, and your Area35 archivist. As this rotation draws to a close, I want to thank all those who made this experience possible: AA members, GSRs, DCMs, Area Committee, Service Sponsors and more.

- The Archives Committee: Renell, Vickie, Kathy, Steve, Rodney, John, Jeff, Dwayne, and Janet.
- Those who moved the archives from Fargo to Aitkin: Mike, Aaron, Brent, Lyle, Jimmy, Daniel, John, Jim, Arden, and Tim.
- Those who I see as Service Sponsors: Tom, Susie, Jim, Kelly, Jake, Peter, Brad, and Paul.
- Donors: Melvin, Marc, Brent

During the past two years we have moved the archives to a climate-controlled and centralized location. Many people visited after the close of ACMs. As archivist I considered the suggestions to digitize and thus reduce storage needs, I surmised that there is a need to inventory and sort prior to digitizing as there are a lot of duplicated and/or irrelevant items and a lot of items that are suitable for digitizing. I inquired of GSO Archives regarding a virtual archive, with their input it seems inadvisable.

After the June ACM Melvin, District 3 DCM dropped off a box of Grapevine Magazines at the archive repository and a few people from District 21 visited. The archive committee will add these to the Grapevine inventory and update the list of Grapevine magazines.

September 9, I visited the Hibbing Alano to attend the MS365 training, while there I got a brief look at their archives. The district archive exhibit is quite well presented and is always on display. Past delegate Jake's memorabilia is included in the archive display.

September 11, I visited District 21 at the Bemidji Alano to exhibit and discuss the area archives. District 21 has an active archive that is displayed during district meetings. Stan keeps the district archive as a traveling exhibit, not on display. Brent displayed memorabilia of his mom's days as a founding member of Bemidji AA and as a past delegate. Past delegates Donna T and Greg G were from District 21.

I received archive items from Marc M District 11, Pine City.

At future ACMs, the archive committee will meet at the archive repository before the general meeting. This will be a working meeting to be used as discovery for active projects. After the close of the ACM the repository will be open for visitors.

In humble service,
Archivist, Marc

ARCHIVES – RENELL P

Greetings Area 35 Fellowship. I apologize for being absent again. I was planning to make it here today, but another obstacle has been put in my way.

During the June and August ACMs I was working. In the summers I am scheduled to work every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. This time I broke my kneecap and am laid up at the moment. My prayers go out to all of you to have another successful assembly. Many changes are on the horizon, for our Area and AA as a whole. Sometimes it is tough to vote for what is the best for AA as a whole and not just our own wants and needs. May our Higher Power prevail over today and tomorrow, in these rooms and in our hearts. I have nothing to report as far as Archives goes. My/Our awesome dependable Archivist has been left holding the bag again. He will pass on the results of this morning's meeting.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve. I look forward to seeing

you all next time.

Renell P

DISTRICT 11 – KATHY M

Verbal report given by Kathy M

DISTRICT 14 -

No DCM

CORRECTIONS – MARK R

Fall Assembly Action Chair Committee Report

Gary H. (District 11 Corrections Chair): Meetings continue weekly at Pine County (4 volunteers). Weekly meetings at Rush City (3 volunteers). Meetings at Moose Lake-General Population continue weekly as well. On Monday & Wednesdays every other week, meetings at MSOP-Willow River Work Camp. Weekly meetings on Saturdays at Sandstone federal prison.

Diane R. (District 9 DCM & Corrections): There are no corrections facilities in District 9. Diane attended the joint Area 35/Area 36 Committee meeting. Thank you, Diane, for attending the Willow River Transition Fair with Jessica S. (District 7)!

Cathy (District 6 GSR in North Branch): Continue to help bring A.A. meetings into Isanti County jail. Training a new volunteer for Isanti County as well.

Carter L. (District 5 Treatment Chair): Carter has been nominated to take over for me as the District 5 Corrections Chair and barring any unforeseen issues, will be voted in at our next District meeting Monday, October 16th! Carter has been bringing A.A. meetings via Zoom to Sherburne County jail for the past year.

Aaron A. (District 6 Alt-DCM & Corrections Chair): Continues to bring A.A. meetings into Isanti County jail and is active as a volunteer for CTCP (Thanks Aaron!). Aaron attends the Statewide Corrections Committee monthly meetings and has been active in the planning of this year's Corrections Workshop.

Dennis (District 6): Dennis was asked to come to the Fall Assembly by Aaron. Aaron has been working with Dennis to hopefully have him take over as the District 6 Corrections Chair. Welcome Dennis, great to have you along with us!

Heather L. (District 8 DCM): Has been working on a new Corrections Chair for her district. I reached out to Heather to find a CTCP Temporary Contact in her area and Heather immediately volunteered her husband, and he graciously agreed to help us out - God Bless you both. Thistledew is the only facility in her District but does not have a status at this time. Thank you, Heather, for unselfishly taking notes for our Action Chair Committee meeting this morning!

Mark R. (Area 35 & District 5 Corrections Chair): There were eight of us in attendance today, awesome to have such a large group! Meetings continue to be going strong in my District 5 at Sherburne & Mille Lacs County jails. I have 5 volunteers at Mille Lacs County and 5 at Sherburne on a constant rotation. Every Tuesday at Mille Lacs County (in-person) and every other Wednesday at Sherburne County (via Zoom).

Currently, working with the Sherburne County Program Coordinator, Mark Fritel, on bringing A.A. meetings into the Women's Unit. We hope to start meetings by the end of 2023 and these too will be hosted via Zoom. The meetings most likely will be held on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays each month from 6:30pm-7:30pm. This is awesome news as I have been working on Carrying the Message to these women for over one year now! Since these meetings are on Zoom, anyone who passes the background checks by Sherburne County can facilitate a meeting from outside Sherburne County! Yours in Service,
Mark R

Area 35 Corrections Chair Report

I continue to attend when possible the weekly International Corrections Meetings.

Monthly, I Chair the Statewide Corrections Committee meetings. Our annual Corrections Workshop is November 18th and we are looking for members to attend as well as volunteer.

Continue to help facilitate finding volunteers to attend the MCF Transition fairs. Struggling to find Temporary Contact volunteers for the Corrections Temporary Contact Program which is a joint Service Work opportunity for both Area 35 and Area 36. We need help from all Area 35 DCM's and all District Corrections Chair.

This very important and critical Service Work and in order for it to be successful, we need many volunteers to not only help Carry the Message to those less fortunate, but get them to their first A.A. Meeting on the Outside.

"I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible."

It was said, "... *We must remember that AA will continue strong only so long as each of us freely and happily gives it away to another person, only as each of us takes our fair share of responsibility for sponsorship of those who still suffer, for the growth and integrity of our Group, for our Inter-group activities, and for A.A. as a whole.*"

When you start your search for Temporary Contacts or Corrections Volunteers, and when sharing about corrections service, refer to an excerpt from a letter that our cofounder Bill W. wrote to a prison group in 1949:

"Every A.A. has been, in a sense, a prisoner. Each of us has walled himself
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out of society; each has known social stigma. The lot of you folks has been even more difficult: In your case, society has also built a wall around you. But there isn't any real essential difference, a fact that practically all A.A.s now know. Therefore, when you members come into the world of A.A. on the outside, you can be sure that no one will care a fig that you have done time. *What you are trying to be-not what you were-is all that counts with us.*"

I would like to share Bill W's feelings about Corrections work and A.A. Behind These Walls:

From The Manuscript of A.A. World History 1985 by Bob P. A.A. "Behind The Walls"

Bill W. at the St. Louis Convention told with obvious glee how what he called "A.A.'s first prison group" came about in 1942. Even prior to that time, Bill said, "San Quentin's enlightened and liberal warden, Clinton T. Duffy, had given much thought to the urgent and pressing problem of prison reform, including the special needs of the inmates imprisoned for crimes committed while drinking. As Warden Duffy said, the program he proposed 'would include' education, vocational training, medicine, psychiatry, and religion. But the alcoholic did not' seem to fit completely into this program...all the rest would not help him if the problems which drove him to drink were not solved. In line with this new approach to rehabilitation, I looked upon Alcoholics Anonymous as a tool to help us rebuild lives.'

"To Warden Duffy's aid came Warren T. and other members in 'the San Francisco area," Bill continued. "As Warden Duffy has since said, 'Had it not been for the regular help and understanding given by our A.A. friends outside, the San Quentin chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous would most assuredly have failed. And by the same token, if it had not been for the persistence of that first group of alcoholic inmates who realized their serious problem and their need for help, we never could have continued beyond the first few meetings.'

"But even with such enthusiasm and willingness, there were formidable problems to solve," Bill pointed out to the St. Louis audience. "A.A. meetings would bring carloads of A.A.'s from the outside running in and out of prison. [They] would probably draw the ridicule of other prisoners. Those penologists who still thought hard-boiled methods to be the only way and those skeptics who thought A.A. only a 'useless fad' would shake their heads. It would mean large gatherings of prisoners unattended by guards. The risks were great, but Warden Duffy took them, and his faith was justified. A.A. soon won the respect of other prisoners A.A.'s came and went freely. . . The meetings had only one guard stationed outside the meeting room." The clincher came, according to Bill, when the recidivism rate of alcoholic prisoners "suddenly dropped from the usual 80 percent to a spectacular 20 percent, and held that way. Skeptics everywhere were convinced. This piece of pioneering made A.A. history." Bill spoke at San Quentin's A.A. group meeting on November 28, 1943.

What made this event particularly important to Bill was undoubtedly that the initiative had come from Warden Duffy. Actually, as the Fellowship spread in the early years, pioneer members usually tried to carry the message "behind the walls" of jails and prisons wherever they were—but not always with such success. After all, the standard treatment for drunks for a century or more was to throw them in jail. And on occasion, as was chronicled in early A.A. stories, the drunk would awake to find that this time he was not charged with public intoxication disorderly conduct, but with a far more serious crime—assault robbery or even murder—that he had committed in a blackout or during temporary alcoholic insanity. So penal institutions were one of the likeliest places to find alcoholics who needed help—and A.A. members responded accordingly without direction from anybody, but acting out of their compassion and desire to work the Twelfth Step.

By the Grace of God, yours in service,
Mark R

Statewide Corrections Committee (SWCC) Chair Report
The SWCC meets on the 1st Wednesday of each Month. I attended the meeting on October 4th.

At the October 4th meeting, we concentrated on the Annual Corrections Workshop and volunteers. This year's workshop will be at Jack & Jim's event center in Foley, MN just outside of St Cloud. It will also be available via TEAMS online. Flyers are on the handouts table.
Special thanks to Kyle H (Area 35 Webmaster) for driving down from Alexandria to meet me and go over the Event Center's equipment and Infrastructure for the Corrections Workshop!

I want to especially thank Kelly D. (District 5 & Past Delegate), Diane R. & Ricco R. (District 9), Jessica S. (District 7), Aaron A. (District 6), Lucy K. (District 15), and Mike U. (District 6) for being involved in the Statewide Corrections Committee every month, and helping to plan the annual Corrections Workshop!

Upcoming MCF Transition Fairs. Any interest in volunteering, please get a hold of me as soon as possible!

<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>TRANSITION FAIR DATE</u>	<u>FACILITY APP DEAD-</u> <u>LINE</u>
MCF-Rush City	October 12, 2023	September 21, 2023
MCF-Lino Lakes	November 14, 2023	October 24, 2023

Thank you to Vicki Z. (District 7) for attending the MCF-Shakopee transition. Thank you to Ricco R. (District 9) for attending the MCF-Moose Lake transition fair! Thank you to both Diane R. (District 9) & Jessica S. (District 7) for attending the MCF-Willow River transition fair. For these transition fairs, we had 30 or more CTCP Request forms for Temporary Contacts.

SWCC Monthly Zoom Meeting Information
The Statewide Corrections Committee (SWCC) meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm via zoom. Our next meeting is September 6, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82160938875?pwd=MWVwTEM5cTBPRmQ1ZWV4cHJxVE5pdz09>

Meeting ID: 821 6093 8875
Passcode: 175607

One tap mobile
+13126266799,,82160938875#,,,,*175607# US (Chicago)

Humbled & Honored to Serve You,
Mark R, Statewide Corrections Committee Chair

DISTRICT 9 – DIANE R
Hi everyone. I am Diane R., and I am an alcoholic, DCM for District 9.

I attended the West Central Regional Forum in Missoula MT. Area 35 was well represented there, and our voice was heard. My Favorite presentation was given by the Trustee-At-Large, Robert, who talked about carrying the A.A. message internationally. I was a bit disappointed that they did not answer most of the Ask it Bucket questions but said they would be part of the report. I have looked for the report but I have not seen it printed yet. Kevin, our treasurer reported that we were a month behind in rent but was not concerned about it because he believes it will be made up in the upcoming months. Hopefully, they will consider a comment that came from our Area that we do not clap after comments as we do at the WCRASC because it can have the effect of preventing a voice that needs and or wants to be heard.

Our last Tri-District Workshop for this rotation was another good one. Thank you to Tri-District Workshop Committee for making this happen; District 8, 9, and 16. Rolene L, talked about being a Service Sponsor, newcomers to service and few not so new to service described the various service positions and duties of those positions. Some were a bit hesitant because they had not done those positions but required them to do some research. Christine, our Area Chair, talked about her story, Robert Rules of Order, and the Third Legacy Procedure. She gave excellent presentations. It finished with a food truck to cook us brats and hamburgers thanks to Tom and his daughter.

We have had two district meetings since we last met. I was not able to attend the one in August because it was the same weekend as the West Central Regional Forum. Thank you to the Alternate DCM, Chuck, for filling in last minute. Tom, our CPC chair, has been in contact with the Probation Office and will meet again with them. At our last District 9 Meeting we had nomination for DCM. Alternate DCM, Secretary, and Treasurer. No nominations for the District Chair positions. We will vote at the October District 9 Meeting.

Pat M, Area 35 Literature Chair, drove to Hibbing to attend our last district meeting. He gave an excellent talk on literature. Pat reminded us that literature serves a purpose, but it is still our responsibility to carry the message face to face so future A.A.s can identify, in other words, tell them what it was like, what happened, and what it is like now.

Thank you to Kyle for coming to Hibbing to train us on Microsoft Office 365.

In Service, Diane

DISTRICT 8 – HEATHER L
My name is Heather. I am DCM of district 8. We meet once a month rotating from Monday to Friday, hosted by a meeting in the district. Our next district meeting is November 8th, hosted by Babbitt Back to Basics Meeting.

Our Tri- District Workshop (8, 9, 16) was a great success. We had a very good turnout. Thank you, Christine, for speaking.

September's meeting was great, as we had our elections and you all will be rid of me January 1st!

John M Alt Archives is still working to get our history.

Sally T Treatment chair is doing a great job keeping a speaker going into Range Treatment Center to carry the message.

Corrections chair has been filled for next rotation! Welcome Ryan and Jamie, thank you for stepping up!

Garrett PI/CPC alternate chair will hold the reins for the rest of the rotation

as our chair is traveling.

Kathy GV/Lit has been working diligently on selling books out of the trunk of her car.

We in District 8 continue praying for Nels!

Thank you for letting me serve

PUBLIC INFORMATION – NELS P

Greetings Area 35. As most of you know, I have had some health issues that have prevented me from doing a whole lot. I plan on attending the December ACM to see everyone and I have missed you all and look forward to it. In service Nels P

DISTRICT 2 – DAVE N

No report

DISTRICT 4 – JAMES W

Verbal report given by James W

GRAPEVINE – MIKE U

Verbal report given by Mike U

DISTRICT 1 -

No DCM

DISTRICT 13 – JIM R

District 13 continues to have strong Treatment & PI committees, we are currently vacant in Corrections, Literature, CPC, & Archives.

Our finances are currently strong & our website continues to have several thousand hits each month with many being unique.

We recently had 10,000 meeting schedules printed and they are currently being distributed to the many places we leave them at each year.

District 13 will be holding our voting for the next rotation at our November meeting.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Jim R

DISTRICT 21 – JENNIFER T

Greetings. My name is Jeri S, District 21 GSR standing in for Jennifer T, DCM.

Our district meeting is at the Bemidji Alano club at 7pm in Gratitude Hall on the second Monday of the month. Attendance averages 15-20. We have a monthly potluck open speaker meeting on the last Saturday of the month.

Since the last assembly, we have had both our area corrections chair in June and our delegate present in July. Our Archivist visited in September, and we had a nice presentation of the history of District 21 by Brent T, district records chair. We learned that Hibbing helped us get our district get started in 1955.

We had a robust turnout, resulting in 9 GSR’s attending this August area business meeting and visiting committee meetings for correction, treatment, and CPC/PI.

We have a district website mnaadistrict21.org and it is connected to Area 35.

We have Open Corrections and CPC/PI positions.

OLD BUSINESS

Area Chair – The only people that can make motions, seconds to motions, and vote are GSRs, their Alternate GSRs if their GSR is not present, DCMs, their Alternate DCMs if their DCM is not present, Area Committee chairs, and Area Officers. District committee chairs or their alternates do not vote or make motions. Please remember this and keep track of yourselves as our business proceeds. Thank you.

Motion to get an email address for the new Treatment Committee Treatment Temporary Contact Coordinator. The cost per month will be \$5.50.

The tabled and seconded motion from the August ACM, **Motion to get an email address for the new Treatment Committee Treatment Temporary Contact Coordinator. The cost per month will be \$5.50**, was brought up for discussion. Area Treatment Chair withdrew his motion.

Motion to move the February ACM to the first Sunday in February.
The tabled and seconded motion from the August ACM, **Motion to move the February ACM to the first Sunday in February**, was brought up for discussion. Area Chair explained that this motion was made to allow more time for the ACM minutes and the Northern Light to be completed and sent to the printer by the printing deadline. Vote: **Motion PASSED**

Minority Opinion:

- Delegate will not get printed agenda items out for the February ACM. DCMs and others who want printed copies will not be able to get them.
- Days are shorter and early February is cold.
- Why are we wanting to do this?

- To increase the time frame for the Northern Lights editor to get the publication ready in time to get it to the printer. Agenda items will be posted on area35.org for people to access.
- To increase the time frame for the Secretary to complete the minutes for inclusion in the Northern Light

Dennis made a “**Motion to Reconsider.**” Bob N. seconded the motion.

Vote: **Motion to Reconsider FAILED.**

Comment was made that Robert’s Rules of Order uses the original number of voting members present at the beginning of proceedings for a quorum. If he beginning count is 100, 2/3 is needed, which is 67. If 20 people are not present for another vote on another item, 2/3 of 100 is still used.

Delegate explained that at the Conference, 2/3 of the total voting members in the room is what is used, not 2/3 of the number of the people who voted. People may come and go from the room, so a head count of the total number of voting members can change from vote to vote.

Past Delegate Jim K. explained that Area 35 loosely follows Robert’s Rules and uses the number of voting members present in the room at the time of the vote.

Alternate Delegate Position Update

Area Chair – The Alternate Delegate resigned at the August ACM. Past Delegate Kelly D. was asked to step in to arrange the January workshop, and that has been done. Location is secured, flyers are made, and the agenda is completed.

Discussion

- Don’t see a need to fill the Alt Delegate position at this time. The workshop has been taken care of.
- The new Alt Delegate can be asked to step in if the current Delegate is unable to complete the rotation.
- The incoming Alt Delegate will be chairing the January workshop.

The sense of the meeting was that it is not necessary to fill the Alternate Delegate position at this time.

Articles of Association

Area Chair – The original Articles of Association said a person that completed a partial rotation could only complete that rotation and not be eligible for the next rotation.

Comments

- Do we have to change the Articles whenever we vote?
- Delegate – We do not have to change the Articles for ordinary business. The reason we have Articles of Association is to have a tax ID number. One reason to change the Articles is so that a person can complete their own two-year rotation after doing a partial rotation that someone else was unable to complete. Another reason is to change the description of who can vote. The Articles currently state that only GSRs can vote. That has changed over time. Other positions were added to the list we have of who can vote, but that is not reflected in the current Articles. The State does not regulate us. The Articles are for *us* to follow.
- A GSR requested more time for GSRs to discuss this with their groups.
- The new language in the handout is underlined, and the black bar on the left side of the page means that something is changed in that paragraph. The old language from the original Articles is crossed out.

Jess S. made a motion “To approve the updates to the Articles of Association.” Seconded by Scott.

Discussion

- Diane R. recommended that the motion be tabled that an ad hoc committee be formed to review why the proposed changes are necessary.

Vote: **Motion to Table PASSED.**

Area Chair will use the right of decision to form an ad hoc committee.

Discussion About How We Vote

Area Chair explained that Area 35 currently uses the number of voting members present in the room at the time of the vote. Don’t consider abstentions.

Discussion

- The Area loosely follows Robert’s Rules and counts a quorum differently than what is done under Robert’s Rules.
- We need to get a head count before each vote to ensure that the number of votes does not exceed the quorum so we know if people are voting when they shouldn’t be. We need to protect the integrity of our elections.
- Area Chair asked if the body wants to implement the counting of voting members present before each vote to insure that non-voting members do not vote. There was no discussion.

Steve L. suggested using secret ballots as a means of getting an accurate count of all the votes and using that number to determine how many votes are needed.

Steve L. made a motion “**To use secret ballots when voting so we have a running total of the number of votes going forward for the remainder of this Assembly.**” Kyle H. seconded the motion.

Discussion

- We use secret ballots when voting for election of Officers, and we move

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- the voting members to one part of the room and non-voting members to another part of the room.
- This is a good idea, but not at this time. This is getting a bit convoluted.
- Vote: **Motion “To use secret ballots when voting so we have a running total of the number of votes going forward for the remainder of this Assembly.” Motion FAILED.**
- A member asked for more explanation of the changing of the head count for each vote.
- We don’t count abstentions because they choose not to participate in that vote, so the head count becomes less for that vote.
- Example: If the number voters in the room is 120, 2/3 of that is 80. If two people abstain, the total number of votes becomes 118, 2/3 of that is 79, which would be used to assess whether or not the vote is carried.

Area Inventory Recommendations

Area Chair explained that we have the recommendations that two ad hoc committees came up with. This process took a few months, and the groups have had a chance to review the items since the Spring Assembly. The floor is now open for discussion.

Discussion

Sarah made a motion **“To reinstate the GSR Orientation and DCM Orientation before Assemblies.”** Jess S. seconded the motion.

Clarification: The GSR Orientation has already been taking place at the Assemblies. There was a motion at a previous Assembly to do that. There is a DCM Orientation at the beginning of each rotation in the even years at the January Workshop.

Friendly amendment **“To remove the DCM orientation from the motion.”**

Since there was a motion at a previous Assembly to have GSR Orientations, and that they are already taking place, the **Motion was WITHDRAWN.**

Inventory recommendation #3

- One member stated that we need to use the hybrid option for Assemblies. We will get more people involved and attract more people to attend in person. It costs a lot for childcare for a weekend. Hybrid would be useful.
- Area Chair said she is seeing some momentum building for some items and we will keep them on the list of recommendations moving forward.
- A GSR stated that we should form an ad hoc committee to review the recommendations overall and see which ones they think should be implemented.

Area Chair said we should not focus on one item and talk about other ones as well.

- One DCM said we still have to consider costs of hybrid equipment. At this time we are not ready to make the purchase.
- Regarding Recommendation 1, DCM from Zone 4 stated that there was not enough time given for the districts in the Zone to get together and discuss whether to have a Zonal Forum.
- Regarding Recommendation #3, a GSR stated that, to protect anonymity, personal contact info should be removed from the Northern Light.
- Hybrid takes Fellowship out of AA. We need to meet in person to have Fellowship.
- There are enough people interested in hybrid meetings. We should create an ad hoc committee.
- Printing the Northern Light costs about \$700 per issue. Email version would save money.
- Check into free electronic voting systems.
- The Northern Light is the official repository of the Area minutes.

Chair will put together an ad hoc committee to review all the recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS

Clarification on definition of Failed Motion “For 2023 only, Area 35 will hold ACMs virtually, and offer hybrid Assemblies and workshops.”

Clarification by Chair: There is concern that the Area is going against this motion and asked that there be further discussion at this Assembly to clarify the meaning of the motion.

- Committee Chair Zoomed someone into a Committee meeting at the June ACM. This was not approved or even asked about prior to the meeting. At the August ACM that was partially hybrid to allow GSRs to vote on proposed General Service Conference agenda items. We could have easily fit the 12 people who Zoomed in for the agenda items for Assembly portion of that meeting.
- The Area is allowing things to happen, and this is unacceptable. The Area is going against our wishes.

Background: We don’t know if we will have proposed agenda items. Chair used right of decision to allow GSRs in to vote at the Assembly portion of the ACM. Another point was that it was thought that since the motion failed, we would not be allowing any hybrid meetings.

Discussion:

Note: (“Zoom” is used interchangeably with “virtual” in the discussion. It does not mean that we will be limiting virtual meetings to the use of Zoom. For example, we now also have Microsoft Teams for our virtual meetings.)

- What was the intent of the motion? Was the intent to not have Zoom for committee meetings and ACMs? If Zoom is available for one committee meeting, it should be available to all.
- The motion was interpreted by some to say, “We will have ACMs 100% in-person with no hybrid and have hybrid Assemblies and Workshops.” The motion failed and did not necessarily eliminate the possibility of using Zoom. It was still a possibility that could be offered.
- Webmaster said he was the one that made the motion, and he made it because the Area was having financial difficulty. The intent was not to totally prohibit the use of Zoom.
- One member stated that when we voted at the Assembly, he understood that to mean we wouldn’t use hybrid at all for the rest of the year. Right of Decision was used to nullify the vote.
- Past Delegate clarified that Right of Decision never supersedes motions that are passed. In the spring we voted to not have virtual ACMs. Virtual ACMs would have meant that no one would physically be at the meeting place, everyone would be online. It did not mean that there would be no use of Zoom. Action Committee members may meet any time outside of Area meetings. They could meet before the Area meeting, two weeks after the meeting, anytime they wanted to meet. Action Committee meetings are not part of the ACMs or Assemblies. Also, there were proposals to be voted on, and if we wanted the GSRs to be able to vote, we would need to use Zoom.
- We voted in the past to allow an Assembly session prior to the August ACM to vote on whether we wanted to send proposals to the General Service Conference to be included in the Agenda Items for the Conference.
- We do have an inclement weather policy that incorporates the use of Zoom. Our Statewide Corrections committee uses Zoom for their meetings.
- We do not need a new motion to allow for the use of hybrid. There is nothing in place that precludes the use of hybrid.
- Chair stated that if we interpret the Spring Assembly motion strictly, that will mean we would not have Statewide Corrections meetings, statewide Treatment Committee meetings, no use of hybrid for inclement weather. We would have to bring it up for a vote any time we need to use hybrid for ACMs due to inclement weather, etc.
- Not everyone can get online to use hybrid or virtual option.
- We elect people to positions that require the right of decision. We will have to use that in the elections. God puts the right people in the right places to make those decisions.

Heather L. made a motion: **“That we investigate and come up with a hybrid meeting that will work for everyone and have it available for bad weather.”** Seconded by Kenneth.

Discussion

- Webmaster’s motion did not include anything about the Statewide Corrections, Treatment, or the inclement weather policy. It was only about ACMs and Assemblies.

Kyle H. offered a **friendly amendment, “or when inclement weather dictates.” Friendly amendment not accepted.**

Discussion

- Aitkin Alano would not hold all the GSRs. Being able to attend via hybrid would be awesome.
- The question was about the Spring Assembly motion and needed clarification. It was not about prohibiting attendance – more attendance is always good.
- Leave it to the Chair to use the Right of Decision.
- We vote at Assemblies twice a year. Chair – plus one more year of EDW (Equitable Distribution of Workload) when we vote in August on proposed Agenda Items.

Broke for Action Committee meetings, Area Officers meeting, and an AA meeting for anyone that wanted to attend at 5:00, dinner from 6:00 to 7:30. Resumed at 7:30.

Vote on motion **“That we investigate and come up with a hybrid meeting that will work for everyone and have it available for bad weather.”**

Vote: **Motion PASSED**

Minority voice –

- We don’t need this, and it will only cause more confusion. The Chair has the Right of Decision.
- We should have a plan for supporting and executing before we vote for it.

Jess S. made a “Motion to Reconsider.” Jim R. seconded.

No discussion.

Motion to Reconsider PASSED.

Discussion

- Some people may not have a good experience, like at the Service Workshop in January. The people that Zoom in have a hard time hearing. Some people may not get the notification that there is a Zoom possibility until the last moment.
- How much participation do we actually get on Zoom?
- There was an attempt to rescind the original motion, but that is not allowed after the motion is voted on and passed.

Vote on the original motion **“That we investigate and come up with a hybrid meeting that will work for everyone and have it available for bad weather.”** Vote: **Motion FAILED.**

Chair – Have we clarified the definition of Failed Motion?

- ♦ There is still some confusion about the difference between having Zoom for ACMs vs Assemblies. It is understood that Action Committee meetings are separate from ACMs Assemblies and, and it is okay to use Zoom for those.
- ♦ Chair tries to have the body make decisions when possible. In the future, it will be brought up to the body at an Assembly for discussion. Anything that’s already been voted on, i.e., inclement weather policy, will not be brought up for a vote because of the timing when it needs to be implemented. Do we want things like that to be grandfathered in?
- ♦ Webmaster’s Spring 2023 motion was made for 2023, that’s all.

Support State Fair Booth 2024 with time and money?

Discussion

- ♦ One person that participated in the State Fair Booth had an incredible experience. A lot of people came to show their medallions, there were social workers asking for pamphlets, families of alcoholics coming up. It was great.
- ♦ Not a lot of people from Area 35 that voted to support the booth participated. Some people couldn’t get there for their shifts, and day captains and other volunteers had to cover for them. Area 35 needs to be there.
- ♦ Where else will we have such an opportunity to touch so many people? It was awesome!
- ♦ If it worked better with Area 36, there was a chance to work on other days than our two.

Jess made a motion “To continue funding the State Fair Booth.” Bud seconded the motion.

Discussion

- ♦ Question: How much do we spend on the booth? Answer: \$700
- ♦ There was tons of literature handed out.

Vote on motion “To continue funding the State Fair Booth.” Motion PASSED

January Service Workshop Registration

Discussion

- ♦ The fee has been \$15 for years. Do we want to increase it?
- ♦ We need to be self-supporting.
- ♦ It will not be implemented this year. It would start in 2025.
- ♦ We should increase it to \$20.
- ♦ How much would the increase help us?

Sense of the meeting was to leave this on the agenda.

Treasurer Electronic Payments

Treasurer made points to consider:

- ♦ Treasurer will email info to the DCMs. **(see pg 13 for proposal)**
- ♦ Do the groups want to use electronic payments?
- ♦ Do the groups want to use Square or Stripe (hardware) payment processors?
- ♦ Square is lower cost for businesses that take in less than \$5,000 per month. We could use it for contributions, Grapevine, Literature, and registration.
- ♦ Do the groups want to use Venmo or PayPal or other software to make payments?
- ♦ There is a processing fee for using Square or Stripe.
- ♦ Using these methods would require the Treasurer to have a cell phone.

Discussion

- ♦ Q: What are the fees? A: Fee info will be mailed to DCMs.
- ♦ Q: Were the fees for debit cards or for credit cards? A: Both
- ♦ One group wants to use electronic payments. Venmo has no fees.
- ♦ One district uses Venmo and it works well. Regarding fees, does anyone have \$2.75 for the vending machine outside this room?
- ♦ Treasurer – The cell phone is strictly for having a data plan, not to give the Treasurer a cell phone for free.
- ♦ When groups contribute using cash, may get \$2 - \$3 at a time. When using Venmo, that usually increases to \$5 - \$10 at a time.
- ♦ This would require a transferable account.
- ♦ PayPal has transferable accounts, so it would be easier to change treasurers each rotation.

Treasurer – This is for information only, not looking for a motion at this time.

Area 35 Website Upgrade

Webmaster made points to consider:

- ♦ Our current website is ugly and not easy to use, i.e., our events calendar.
- ♦ Does the Assembly want this upgrade?
- ♦ If we upgrade, it will work with Office 365.
- ♦ We could embed maps.
- ♦ The content of the website would not change.
- ♦ Do we want to spend \$99 per year to be able to sync calendars?
- ♦ The new website would show up differently on phones, tablets, laptops, or computers.

Discussion

- ♦ Q: Can we do this update before the end of the rotation? A: Yes, we can update this rotation.

- ♦ Q: Maps will pop up if we click a button? A: Yes.
- ♦ Not in favor of spending \$100 per year.
- ♦ What is the Webmaster’s recommendation?
- ♦ Webmaster’s recommendation is to upgrade the website and discuss the \$99 fee as needed.
- ♦ Q: Do we need a motion to upgrade? A: Chair – We should bring this back to the groups for more discussion.
- ♦ Q: Is this to bring the \$99 fee back to the groups? A: Yes

Heidi B. made a motion to “Allow the Webmaster to upgrade Area 35 website free edition.” Becky seconded the motion.

Discussion

- ♦ What is the difference between the “free” edition and the \$99 version?
- ♦ Webmaster will email the info to DCMs tonight.

Vote: Motion to “Allow the Webmaster to upgrade Area 35 website free edition.” Motion PASSED unanimously.

Election Process

Chair stated some point to consider:

- ♦ Delegate resumés are in the July/August issue of the Northern Light, which is available on area35.org.
- ♦ For Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary, nominations come from voting members only.
- ♦ Nominator will get one minute to say why the nominee would be a good servant.
- ♦ When an officer fills a partial term mid-rotation, should they be able to have another full rotation of their own?

Discussion

- ♦ One DCM stated that he is in favor of allowing that to happen.

Sharla made a “Motion to allow a person that has served less than a full term, they can stand for another term for this election.” Jess seconded the motion.

Discussion

- ♦ One member asked for clarification because we tabled the Articles of Association?
- ♦ Is this going to change the Articles?
- ♦ Chair – this is a one-and-done. No effect on the Articles.
- ♦ Q: Would this keep another from standing for that position? A: No, the person who filled the partial term would have to stand for that position and be voted on.

Vote: “Motion to allow a person that has served less than a full term, they can stand for another term for this election.” Motion PASSED unanimously.

Voting will be by ballot for four positions – Delegate, Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. There will not be voting for Alternate Delegate since we have only two people standing for Delegate. The second-place person will automatically become Alternate Delegate.

Chair will also ask the Past Delegates one-by-one that are in attendance tomorrow morning if they are willing and able to stand for West Central Regional Trustee. If more than one stands, there will be voting by Third Legacy Procedure to see which one the Area wants to put forward.

- ♦ Q: Will there be any other nominations for Delegate? A: There will not.
- ♦ Q: Will there be any statements as to why people would want to stand for Delegate? A: The Delegate resumés with all their information is in the Northern Light.
- ♦ One DCM stated they did not know that nominees for Delegate had to be nominated by the District.

Calendar of Events was read.

Reminders: Evaluation forms are on the table in back, there is a Big Book meeting tomorrow morning at 7:30 and thank you to District 13 for hosting this Assembly.

Closed meeting with the Responsibility Statement.

Sunday, October 8, 2023

Area Chair called the meeting at 9:00 and opened with the Serenity Prayer. There were two guests at the meeting: Kerry M, a Class A Trustee and our West Central Regional Point of Contact, and Meg H, Area 36 Panel 73 Delegate. Welcome, Kerry and Meg!

Reminder: We need questions for the Ask-It-Basket.

There are three ad hoc committees we need volunteers for – Zonal Forums, Electronic Payments, and Hybrid meetings.

GSR SHARING SESSION REPORT

During the sharing session, several topics of interest were discussed:

- 1) GSR contributions/involvement in workshops
 - ♦ GSRs need more information to understand their role in workshops.
 - ♦ Bring sponsees to workshops and introduce them to service work.
 - ♦ Have a meeting hour before district meetings to explain duties.

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- ♦ GSRs raised concerns about how to get more involvement.
 - ♦ GSR alternate position for training into the position.
- 2) GSR involvement in committees,
- ♦ GSRs can join committees in their District and talk to DCM.
 - ♦ Go with DCM to a committee meeting and talk to people.
 - ♦ Attend district meetings and talk to DCM.
 - ♦ Joining a committee opens a new level of understanding of service and understanding of the business structure.
 - ♦ Going to committee meetings at assemblies.
- 3) How GSRs get district involvement
- ♦ Start by getting people involved in service at their meetings.
 - ♦ Go to other meetings and discuss service opportunities.
 - ♦ Share hot topics that are being discussed in the district with groups.
 - ♦ Potlucks and inviting service speakers.
 - ♦ Sponsors should encourage sponsees to attend area and district meetings to learn more about the service structures.
 - ♦ It was suggested to attract more people by offering food. Bring a pie, etc.
- 4) How GSRS can help their groups make proposals
- ♦ Fill out the proposal form after getting group-conscious
 - ♦ DCM can help GSR with form
 - ♦ To get proposals up for consideration, it is essential to bring those issues to the group.
 - ♦ The website has email addresses where proposals can be sent from individuals or groups.
 - ♦ If a group wants, they can go straight to GSO with proposals.
 - ♦ There is no way to see proposals not being brought forward to the conference.
 - ♦ It is crucial to keep track of the proposals brought to the conference and inform the group.
- 5) How to GSRs stay informed
- ♦ GSRs make sure to attend district meetings and make sure to read all communications from your DCM, ask to be on communications from the Chair
 - ♦ Go to aa.org and look up the "What's new" tab
 - ♦ Read the Northern Light
 - ♦ Communicate with other people in the service
 - ♦ Go to meetings in other districts

The GSR sharing session chair and GSR secretary position will be selected by current GSRs at the next assembly in the sharing session.

Sincerely, Sarah C

DCM SHARING SESSION REPORT

We had 11 DCMs from District 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16 and one A.A. district chair from district 13 attend the DCM Sharing Session.

We took one question. We talked about the Right of Decision. Is it important and the best thing to do? Sometimes new information come to light and we must make a decision with that new information. The following are the discussion points about the Right of Decision.

- ♦ There were three A.A.s standing for Delegate and now there are two. Some G.S.R.s and D.C.M.s will have to use the Right of Decision to vote. The Area Chair used the Right of Decision to allow G.S.R.s to vote at the August ACM Meeting.
- ♦ We need to keep it simple. We need to consider cost. We sometimes have a limited amount of time to make decisions so we can use the Right of Decision.
- ♦ Right of Decision is in the Service Manual. Sometimes at an Assembly we get more information. I know my home group and we are trusted servants who can use the Right of Decision because we have more information.
- ♦ We are elected as trusted servants, and the body believes it is the best for the whole. I have been given the right to vote with the information that I have. I must trust our trusted servants to rightly use the Right of Decision. They may have additional information.
- ♦ I ask God to direct us. I ask that egos get out of the way. I give that will up and let others be in charge and give them the freedom to make their own decisions. Remember to always invite God in.
- ♦ We put trust in the people we elect. Sometimes we have an ax to grind and sometimes we just have to be okay with it.
- ♦ We are in the position of DCM because they liked what we do. I trust in God and believe that God wants me to be there. When there are decisions to make, I ask the elder members and look to others with more experience. I like the minority opinion and how it turns the vote around.
- ♦ I am here for a reason.
- ♦ This is Concept 3. We must remember why we are here. We are the Area, and we are carrying the A.A. message to the still suffering alcoholic.
- ♦ I do have the Right of Decision.
- ♦ I believe that the GSRs believed that I was trustworthy, or I would not be here. I try to get the information from the groups and that was why they voted us in.
- ♦ In the end we do the Right of Decision. We must go back to the groups and say why we voted the way we voted. The Right of Decision should not be used to make hasty decisions. A.A. Groups, whenever possible, should be the ones making the decisions. We need to have the tough discussions. It is important to remember that it is principles before personalities. Everyone has what is best for A.A. at the heart of their decisions, they believe that it is the best decision for A.A.
- ♦ Our Area Chair is a Trusted Servant and has a lot of experience to share.

When we make a decision, we need to follow that decision. We need to leave the past alone. A.A. is about unanimity. Plain and Simple, Love and Tolerance is our Code. Look for the Good.

In Service, Diane

OFFICER & ACTION COMMITTEE CHAIRS MEETING REPORT

Area Chair reported that we talked a lot about having emails updated in Office 365, files can be uploaded, shared, and available for the incoming rotation. Also, the outgoing position holder needs to be available to the incoming position holder to show them the ropes and answer questions about their position.

WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL TRUSTEE NOMINEE

Past Delegates were asked one-by-one whether they were willing to stand for WCR Trustee. Bob J, Panel 40 declined. Tim C, Panel 52 declined. Charlie C, Panel 54 declined. Scott A, Area 36 Panel 57 and 59, declined. Jim K, Panel 62 declined. Mike (Jake) J, Panel 64 accepted. Kelly D, Panel 66 declined. Christine G, Panel 68 declined.

Congratulations, Jake! There is a resumé form to be completed and forwarded to Steve L., our Delegate, so he can forward it to the General Service Office. Jake stated that he started as a GSR and did things for AA when asked. He kept doing that, and it made it the person that he is. He really appreciates Area 35.

ELECTIONS

Chair reminded the nominating people that they have the opportunity to make a one-minute presentation about why the person they are nominating would be a good servant in that position.

Bob J. chaired the proceedings.

Area Delegate

There were two nominees standing for Area Delegate – Diane R and Pat M.

Diane R was elected on the first ballot. Congratulations, Diane!
Pat M thus becomes the Alternate Area Delegate. Congratulations, Pat!

Area Chair

There were four nominees for Area Chair – Randy A, Kyle H, Vicki R, and Julie N.
Vicki R was elected on the third ballot. Congratulations, Vicki!

Area Treasurer

There was one nominee for Area Treasurer – Heidi B.
Heidi B was elected via white ballot. Congratulations, Heidi!

Area Secretary

There was one nominee for Area Secretary – Denise R.
Denise R was elected via white ballot. Congratulations, Denise!

Ask-it-basket questions were answered by Past Delegates during the election.

INCOMING AREA CHAIR

Kyle H. made a “Motion to allow the incoming Area Chair to choose people who are willing to be Action Committee Chairs for the upcoming rotation.” Heidi B. seconded the motion. Vote: Motion PASSED unanimously.

Motion to adjourn – Jim R. made a motion to adjourn, Heidi B. seconded. Motion PASSED Unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m. Closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally L, Area 35 Secretary

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.****

Fall Assembly River’s Edge Convention Center Evaluations

GSR – 18 evaluations

- ♦ Important to have ice cream social – gives social time with new people
- ♦ Motivated service workers following the Traditions and an attitude of love and service
- ♦ Need better and quicker communication with full background
- ♦ Area Chair did a good job at respecting sharing while keeping the body on topic
- ♦ Very informative
- ♦ Too much beating a ‘dead horse’ and unnecessary arguing
- ♦ It was ok
- ♦ First assembly, don’t have much to compare to
- ♦ Offer hot water for tea drinkers
- ♦ Facility was wonderful
- ♦ Like to see GSRs give 5-10 min presentation on selected topics
- ♦ Better sound
- ♦ People need to remember that we are all trusted servants, working an honesty program and here for the greater good.
- ♦ Trust to make decisions on if hybrid meetings are needed
- ♦ Thank you for your service
- ♦ Well organized
- ♦ Would like to have zoom option
- ♦ Always a learning experience
- ♦ Too many personalities exhibited
- ♦ Appears unity has been lost in the area
- ♦ Have another projection screen for the opposite side of the room
- ♦ Have more signage directing where to go

DCM – 6 evaluations

- ♦ Went well
- ♦ Don’t fix what isn’t broken
- ♦ Thank you for your service
- ♦ Expensive coffee
- ♦ The area was great
- ♦ Need ice cream social
- ♦ Wonderful assembly
- ♦ Have never ending coffee
- ♦ Taller parking ramps
- ♦ Fun and informative
- ♦ Well organized and ran smooth
- ♦ Had enough time for fellowship
- ♦ Announce to keep talk down in the back
- ♦ Well organized
- ♦ Business on Saturday night was wonderful

Other – 9 evaluations

- ♦ Encourage more GSRs to go to the mic
- ♦ Decent attendance but could be better
- ♦ Coffee is too expensive
- ♦ Need better sound system
- ♦ Very well organized and executed
- ♦ Thank you to all Area Officers for all your hard work
- ♦ Hard to hear people
- ♦ Room setup was interesting
- ♦ Well run and organized
- ♦ Have a little more fun and lightheartedness
- ♦ Area chair did well
- ♦ Facility was good
- ♦ Well organized
- ♦ Great representation by past delegates
- ♦ Continue to keep up the great standards

Proposal from Area Treasurer

DCM’s - Please bring back to your groups for discussion.

Do groups want to have the option to contribute to the Area using electronic methods?

If so would they like to use any of the following: PayPal; a Debit or Credit Card.

Would they like to use a debit card to purchase Literature or Grapevine at Area events?

Would members like to pay for registration at the January service workshop using a debit or credit card? If so, do they support the Treasurer position having a cell phone (for use in setting up the electronic payments accounts (square processes card payments). The cell phone would be for Area financial business only, not for personal use.

To accept debit or credit card payments for Literature or the Grapevine the following would apply:

Proposal

- ♦ Use Square to process cash sales at Area events for Literature and Grapevine
- ♦ Simple to use
- ♦ Transaction fees: Swipe: 2.6% plus 10 cents per transaction (this is the non-profit rate) Keyed: 3.5% plus 15 cents per transaction
- ♦ Can accept all major credit cards, Cash App and prepayment options
- ♦ Chargeback – no fee
- ♦ Refunds: No fee, the customer receives their full payment, and the merchant receives the transactions fee
- ♦ Does invoicing
- ♦ Best for use with in-person sales and revenue of less than \$5,000/month

Upfront costs:

I would suggest either:

- ♦ Mobile POS Kit for Square Reader plus an iPad - \$478 plus tax
- ♦ Or Square terminal - \$299

Advantages:

- ♦ Money is deposited into the checking account right away; receipts are printed for the customer.
- ♦ Don’t need a phone number, can use it by accessing a personal hotspot on a phone or connecting to internet (although I do recommend a phone with a data plan: tradition of self-support).
- ♦ Can hand over this equipment for the next rotation, making options consistent. More Districts and Groups are using debit cards for transactions, so it is easier for them and for the Area.
- ♦ PayPal processing fees from 1.9% of the transaction plus .49 (non-profit rate). Venmo processing fees 1.9% of the transaction plus .10 (doesn’t offer non-profit rate)
- ♦ Even though as Treasurer I can use Square by using my personal phone as a hotspot, there are still data charges that apply. In the spirit of self-support, I propose that the Area provide a cell phone for the Treasurer position. Square uses approximately up to 10kb of data.

Disadvantages:

- ♦ Credit and Debit card processing fees. These can definitely add up.
- ♦ There would be some technology maintenance to be aware of. If we change to QuickBooks online you can tie your bank accounts to it, there are definite ways to enter those types of transactions, not as intuitive as it could be.

My proposal:

1. Set the Treasurer up for the future and for growth by purchasing a phone and data plan
2. Set up Venmo, PayPal and Square to allow various payment types for Districts and Groups. 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.

Yours in service,
Vicki R/Area Treasurer

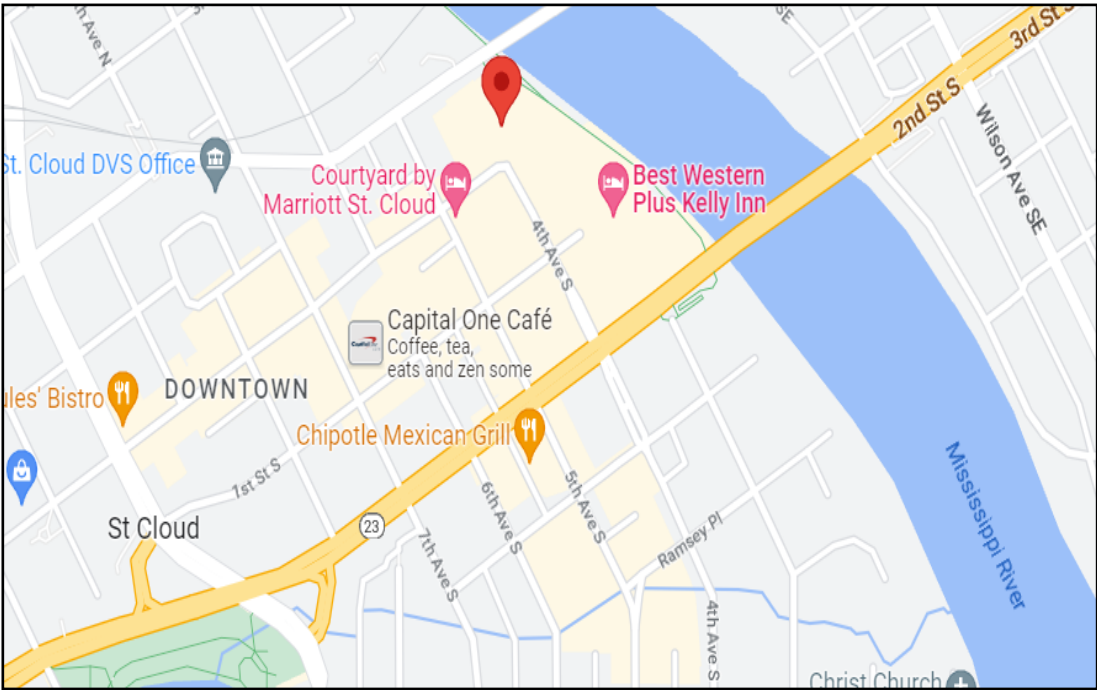


48th Annual Area 35 Service Workshop
“Connecting With Love, Unity, and Service”
January 13-14, 2024
River’s Edge Convention Center
100 4th Avenue South, St. Cloud, MN 56301

<p>Best Western Plus Kelly Inn 100 4th Ave. South St Cloud, MN 56301 (No Parking Fee) Room Rate: \$129 + tax per night 2 Queen Beds Or King Bed Reservations: (320) 253-0606 Reserve under: NMAA Area 35 Cutoff Date: December 12, 2023</p>	<p>Courtyard by Marriott St Cloud 404 W. St Germain Street St Cloud, MN 56301 (Parking Fee \$4.51 Daily) Room Rate: \$149 + tax per night 2 Queen Beds \$129 + tax per night King Bed Reservations: (320) 654-1661 Reserve under: NMAA Cutoff Date: December 13, 2023</p>
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Saturday January 13th
8:00 AM Registration Begins
9:00 AM Workshop Convenes

Sunday January 14th
9:00 AM Workshop Convenes



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\$15.00 Registration to strive toward the area action of making the service workshop self-supporting.

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Saturday, January 13, 2024

- 8:00 Registration Begins
- 9:00 Opening and Announcements
Meet Your Area Officers and Action Committee Chairs
- 9:15 **Informed Group Conscience – The Key to Unity** – District 6
- 10:00 **Connecting Home Groups throughout the Year**
To Better Inform the Groups Conscience – District 13
- 10:45 Break
- 11:00 **Overcoming the Barriers to Participation** – District 11
- 11:45 Lunch on Your Own
- 1:30 **Sponsorship: Where It Begins** – District 15
- 2:15 **Singleness of Purpose: Staying Pertinent in a Changing World** – District 12
- 3:00 Break
- 3:15 **Safeguarding Our Traditions** – District 9
- 4:00 **Inventory: Yours, Mine, and Ours** – Carla N., Minneapolis, MN
- 4:45 Dinner on Your Own
- 6:30 **GSR Sharing Session/ DCM Orientation**
Area Officers and Action Committee Chairs Meet
- 8:00 **Open Speaker Meeting** – Carla N., Minneapolis, MN

Sunday, January 14, 2024

- 7:30 **Big Book Closed A.A. Meeting**
- 9:00 **Communication: The Key to an Informed Decision** – District 7
- 9:45 **Be Involved, Be Inspired, Be of Service** – District 5
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 **Closing Talk: Responsibility in Service** – Carla N., Minneapolis, MN
- 11:30 **Ask-It-Basket** – Past Delegates
- 12:00 Adjourn

Each District will have 25 minutes for their presentations. It will then be open for discussion/sharing/ questions for 20 minutes on the topic from the floor.

\$15.00 Registration fee to strive toward the area action of making the Area 35 Service Workshop self- supporting.

DELEGATE – STEVEN L

Howdy Ladies and Gentlemen, It has been a long and fun journey that I have had the pleasure to take with you. In this lifetime, I will never be able to repay the trust and love you have shown me. I can’t thank you enough.

There hasn’t been much to do in the week that passed since the Fall Assembly. I can say this though, there is a new flier out for the West Central Regional AA Service Conference (WCRAASC). On the flier there are QR codes for conference registration, Grand Hotel reservations, and the West Central Website. There is a registration fee for the West Central Conference which has an early bird registration of \$25 before February 1, 2024. Then the price jumps to \$30. The \$25 all-conference coffee pass is being redone this year. I have received the new list of raw Proposed Agenda Items. There are 117 PAIs for the Trustees to sift through and decide which will make it to the 74th General Service Conference in 2024.

I will be meeting with Diane this week to brief her on what to expect in the months to come. She is lucky to have the people in Area 35 to support her. You are a thoughtful, caring bunch of people, who like to speak their minds and ask intelligent questions. Keep it up.

In Service,
Steven L

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – OPEN

CHAIR – CHRISTINE G

Greetings Area 35, Since the Fall Assembly I have reviewed the evaluations and have included a summary after this report. There were 113 attendees that registered.

Congratulations to all the new incoming officers for the next rotation. If there is anyone who is interested in serving as a committee chair, please contact the incoming area chair, Vicki or you can contact me and I can get her your information.

The ad hoc committee that was meeting for the aaminnesota.org website has concluded, and their advisements are as follows which have been implemented. Thank you to the committee for their work and advisements.

- ♦ We advise keeping the aaminnesota.org webpage and maintaining it at the Area level.
- ♦ We have advised having only the 2 Area websites available as contacts on the Home page along with the Purpose Statement which is currently on the aaminnesota.org Home page.
- ♦ We have advised removing the entire “Phone Contact Number” tab from the webpage.
- ♦ We have advised removing the following from the Home page:
 - ♦ Need a meeting? Find it here!
 - ♦ ONLINE AND CANCELLED MEETINGS
 - ♦ Many meetings and events have been cancelled due to COVID-19, and many groups have online meetings. Click on “Phone Contact Numbers” in the menu above to contact different regions and inter groups in the state for more local information. Some groups are not listed on this website but may be on local meeting schedules.
 - ♦ ONLINE MEETINGS
 - ♦ If you are looking for online meetings, the following links may be useful: National and international online meetings database. Resources provided by Alcoholics Anonymous for finding and creating online meetings.

This information has been forwarded to the area webmaster, so he was able to update the website.

I will be working with the incoming area chair over the next couple months sharing my experience as she transitions into the chair position. Vicki will do a great job in the position. I will also be working with her on asking for volunteers for the ad hoc committees that the area would like to see formed. The three that have been requested are for zonal forums, hybrid meetings area technology and for electronic payments. If you are interested in sitting on these committees, please let me know.

I have also worked on setting the December ACM agenda. If you would like to add something to the agenda, please let me know and we can get it added.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Area 35 Chair.
Christine G.

SECRETARY – SALLY L

Greetings, Area 35. I finished the minutes for the 2023 Fall Assembly. It took many hours due to all the motions and discussions that were had. It was hard to hear the recordings sometimes as some people mumbled or didn’t speak into the mic. Please try to be clearer in the future. That would make the secretary’s life a lot easier.

Other than working on the minutes, there was not a lot to do. I did proofread-

ing for the Northern Light editor and the Area Chair. I am glad to be able to help.

In service,
Sally L

TREASURER – VICKI R

Hello! Group finances through 9/30/23:

YTD

Group Contributions	\$41,412
Birthday/Other	<u>\$17,553</u>
Total	\$58,965

Total Expenses	<u>\$(38,924)</u>
Net Income	\$ 20,041

PD 5 8/1/23 – 9/30/23

Group Contributions	\$7,834
Birthday/Other	<u>\$3,373</u>
Total	\$11,207
Expense	<u>\$(5,438)</u>
Net Income	\$ 5,769

Aug group contributions was \$2,744, previous high was 4,057
Sep group contributions was \$2,881, previous high was \$3,216

216 (up from 195 end of July) groups have contributed through Sep 30,
41 =>\$300 or 19%.
27 =>\$400 or 13%

Another perspective is that 18 districts currently contribute to the Area. To meet the projected \$88,457 budget, each would need to contribute \$4,914

Grapevine sales and purchases:
Sales: \$1,077 – purchases: \$926 = 151 More sold than purchased.
Literature sales and purchase:
Sales: \$9,929 – purchase: \$10,210 = (\$281) More purchased than sold.

The budgeted income is \$42,000; minus \$33,428 leaving \$8,572 to take in the rest of the year.

Cash projections:

Register balance at 9/30/23:	\$28,175
Expected receipts Oct-Dec:	\$ 9,302
Expected expenses Aug/Sep	<u>\$(12,707)</u>
Net cash on Sep 30:	\$24,770

Projections are my best guess based on information at hand, they may or may not be accurate.

I’ve sent the July, August, and September files to the Financial Oversight Committee for review.

Yours in service,
Vicki R

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

WEBMASTER – KYLE H

No report given

NORTHERN LIGHT – HEIDI B.

Greetings! As I sit here working on my 12th and final issue of the Northern Light for my rotation as Editor, I’m reminded of my first issue in 2023. Learning MS Publisher on a PC has been interesting! I worked in the creative industry for decades and have only ever used a Mac. I received the Area’s Northern Light PC laptop and found myself starting at the screen, and finally googling “How to make a folder on a PC” on my phone. Nearly two years later, I’m fairly confident in my ability to do what I need to do on this borrowed laptop, just in time to hand it to the next rotation’s editor. Thank you for this opportunity to step out of my comfort zone and learn something new! I look forward to working with the incoming Northern Light editor on their first issue in 2024.

As always, thank you for allowing me to serve this Area.

GROUP RECORDS – DENISE R

Greetings Area 35, Since my last report, I have been finalizing the clean up of all Unknown Groups and again I want to thank all the DCM’s for their help in getting this task accomplished!

The Ad hoc committee I was part of that was tasked with looking at aaminnesota.org has finished it’s initial goals. I was happy to be part of that group and look forward to whatever else is needed concerning Group Records responsibilities for aaminnesota.org.

I have received several Northern Light returns again averaging a cost of approximately \$8 per month. If you are leaving for warmer climates for the winter, please send your address change to me at grouprecords@area35.org .

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

I continue to work on regular updates that are sent to me. Please send me new DCM Forms as soon as you have elected your District’s new rotation of DCM’s. You can find the DCM Change Form in the link here <https://www.aa.org/gso-dcm-dcmc-information-change-form>

Finally, I just want to thank for electing me as your Secretary for the next rotation of service. It will be a privilege to serve.

In service,
Denise R

LITERATURE – PAT M

Hello Area 35, Pat M, your Area 35 Literature representative. What's new in literature? I wouldn't know. GSO sends me no notifications of anything. I've tried to get this solved. I spoke to many people at GSO and I seem to get the runaround. I do know there's some literature on back order yet, like service manuals. I got to attend the St Cloud Roundup with the literature. They had a tremendous round up with some very great speakers. Still hoping to get to some districts, so if I have not gotten to your district, please let me know when I can come if you want me to come.

In service,
Pat M

PUBLIC INFORMATION – NELS P

Nothing new to report. My health is slowly getting better. I look forward to seeing everyone at the December ACM.

TREATMENT – RICCO R

I was invited to speak at Lakeplace Retreat Center a treatment facility in northern Minnesota. It was a very enjoyable experience. The staff was wonderful, friendly, friends of Bill W. that stresses the 12 steps of recovery for people affected by alcoholism that attend the treatment facility. I must thank Glenn M., District 16 Treatment Chair, for giving me the opportunity to speak at Lakeplace. I gave some Bridging the Gap brochures and some client forms to the Lakeplace Treatment Facility and explained the Bridging the gap program to them also.

I would like to thank Area 35 for giving me the opportunity to be the Area 35 Treatment Chair for this rotation. I would also like to thank the Area 35 Treatment Committee for coming up with most of the projects we worked on and then volunteering to do the work needed to get them done. It gave me tremendous gratitude to belong to a bunch of Recovering Alcoholics so willing to practice Tradition Five and carry the message of recovery to the still suffering alcoholic.

Ricco

CPC - GREG C

No report given

ARCHIVIST – MARC N

During the past few weeks, I inquired of past archivists regarding things in our archive repository that I thought were outside issues and perhaps did not belong. I was reminded that all things in our archive were donated by AA members who had found the items to be valuable, to memorialize their sobriety. Although many of us will not see that value, the idea is that diverse things can serve as memories of where we came from, how our lives changed, and how we live today. Many of these items are not suitable for public display but are here for our memories. A hairpiece really made me wonder about this, but then I was told that it was Willard’s. I don’t know who Willard was, but someone does and that makes it important to keep.

The old voice recordings, some vinyl records, some cassette tapes, and some CDs are being preserved by digitizing to various formats (mp3, m4a, wav, etc). Often these recordings disclose full names, thus are not to be available via internet, but will be available for listening privately or at closed meetings. I hope to post an index of these recordings on the Area 35 website.

There are many old posterboards that are aging and deteriorating, I am taking pictures of these possibly for virtual display and/or at some point to remake them.

In Humble Service,
Archivist, Marc N

ARCHIVES – RENELL P

No report given

GRAPEVINE – MIKE U

No report given

CORRECTIONS - MARK R

I attend when possible the weekly International Corrections Meetings.

Monthly, and for the remainder of 2023 & 2024 I Chair the Statewide Corrections Committee meetings. Our annual Corrections Workshop is November 18th and we have been working hard to make this year’s workshop another success! The Flyer is posted at AREA35.org under Area Events calendar – for November 18th date..

We have come to our last MCF Transition Fair which is at MCF-Lino Lakes. A big thank you to both Vicki Z (District 7) and Gail S (Manager - Minneapolis Intergroup) who will be facilitating the last Transition Fair for 2023.

I continue to struggle to find Temporary Contact volunteers for the Corrections Temporary Contact Program which is a joint service work opportunity for both Area 35 and Area 36 A.A. members. We need help from all Area 35 DCM’s and all District Corrections Chairs to help us (Area 35) Carry the Message to those less fortunate who are coming back to our communities and are reaching out for help and looking for our outstretched hands of ours!

This very important and critical Service Work and in order for it to be successful, we need many volunteers to reach out their hands to those less fortunate, and help get them to their first A.A. Meeting on the Outside.

Remember

“I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.”

God Bless you all for your special service work in A.A now and far into the future.

Yours in service,
Mark R

Statewide Corrections Committee (SWCC) Chair Report

The SWCC meets on the 1st Wednesday of each Month. I attended meeting on October 4th.

We continue to prepare for this year’s Annual SWCC Corrections Workshop. The workshop is at Jack & Jim’s Event Center in Foley, MN just outside of St Cloud. It will also be available via TEAMS online. This year’s Workshop is looking to be a fantastic event, loaded with A.A. Members and Friends of A.A. with over 80 years of combined Corrections experiences they are graciously going to share with us all. God Bless these wonderful people!

The Flyer and Online Registration are available online at the following link: <https://www.area35.org/swccc correctionsworkshop/>

Special thanks to Kyle H (Area 35 Webmaster) for all his work in getting the flyer post in the Area 35 Events Calendar and setting up the Teams Online meeting and Registration form for online attendance!

Again, special thanks to our Area 35 contributing members - Kelly D. (District 5/Past Area 35 Delegate), Diane R. and Ricco R. (District 9), Jessica S. (District 7), Aaron A. (District 6), Lucy K. (District 15), Mike U. (District 6), and Vicki Z (District 7) for being involved in the Statewide Corrections Committee every month, helping to plan the annual Corrections Workshop, attending MCF Transition Fairs and volunteering for the very important CTCP!

Thank you to Vicki Z. (District 7) and Gail S (Manager - Minneapolis Intergroup) for volunteering to attend the last 2023 transition fair at MCF-Lino Lakes November 14th! I have over 32 CTCP Requests for Temporary Contacts over the course of the next 1-12 months. I will be sending out additional emails to all Area 35 DCM’s and Corrections Chairs for your help in finding Temporary Contacts. If you have not setup your Office365 Account, please do so as there are already emails from me that are going unnoticed!

We are all in this together and I’m going to need all of your assistance helping ensure “The Hand of A.A.” is there for these less fortunate members of A.A.! If you are interested in being part of the Statewide Corrections Committee, please review our meeting information below.

SWCC Monthly Zoom Meeting Information

The Statewide Corrections Committee (SWCC) meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm via zoom.

Our next meeting is November 1, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

Meeting ID: 821 6093 8875
Passcode: 175607

One tap mobile
+13126266799,,82160938875#,,,,*175607# US (Chicago)

Humbled & Honored to Serve you,
Mark

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35


*See area35.org for printable flyers

Joint Minnesota Area 35 & Area 36 Statewide Corrections Committee

CORRECTIONS WORKSHOP

November 18, 2023
9:30 AM to 3:00 PM
Jack & Jim's Event Center
11025 Duelm Road NE Foley
MN 56329
(15 miles Northeast of St Cloud)

ONLINE AND IN PERSON



Ken B, Past West Central Regional Trustee, Omaha NE

James N, A.A. Speaker, Minneapolis MN

David Kieke, Programs Coordinator, Benton County Jail


Panel of Corrections Trusted Servants Discuss:

- How to serve in correctional facilities from jails/detention centers to prisons
- The clearance paperwork process
- How to participate as a Corrections Temporary Contact volunteer

Online Registration

Go to www.area35.org/swcccworkshop for workshop information or use the QR Code below. As the day of the workshop nears, a login will be provided at this location that will link to the registration page. Contents of the workshop folders and forms will also be provided at this link or QR Code.

Onsite Lunch \$15
Sandwich & Soup Buffet
with Cold Salad & Chips.



Unlimited Coffee \$3

For more information, contact:
Mark R, corrections@area35.org or Craig H, corrections@area36.org

2023 Service Events

December 3: Area Committee Meeting
Aitkin, MN

2024 Service Events

January 13 - 14: Area 35 Service Workshop
St. Cloud, MN

February 4: Area Committee Meeting
Aitkin, MN

March 1 - 3: WC Regional Service Conference
Minot, ND

April 6 - 7: Spring Assembly
Crookston, MN


June 2: Area Committee Meeting
Aitkin, MN

August 4: Area Committee Meeting
Aitkin, MN

48th Annual Area 35 Service Workshop
"Connecting With Love, Unity and Service"
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\$15.00 Registration to strive toward the area action of making the service workshop self-supporting.

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11:30 Ask-It-Basket – Past Delegates
12:00 Adjourn

Each District will have 25 minutes for their presentations. It will then be open for discussion/sharing/ questions for 20 minutes on the topic from the floor.

\$15.00 Registration fee to strive toward the area action of making the Area 35 Service Workshop self-supporting.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

West Central Regional
Service Conference
2024

HOSTED BY AREA 52

SCHEDULE COMING SOON!

Date: MARCH 1ST - MARCH 3RD

Location : GRAND HOTEL
701-852-3161
1505 N BROADWAY
MINOT, ND 58703

Costs:

- Early Registration- \$25
- Registration after 2/1/24 increases- \$30
- Coffee pass- \$25



CONFERENCE
WEBSITE



CONFERENCE
REGISTRATION



HOTEL
REGISTRATION
(GRAND HOTEL)

Hotel Info

GRAND HOTEL: 701-852-3161

DOUBLE QUEEN OR KING- \$89

NIGHT POOLSIDE ROOMS- \$90

NIGHT KING SUITES- \$99

QUALITY INN AND SUITES: 701-390-1820

HAMPTON INN: 701-838-1400

THEME:

CONNECTING WITH LOVE, UNITY, AND SERVICE

TO REGISTER BY MAIL, SEND THIS PORTION WITH YOUR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO WEST CENTRAL REGION.
MAIL BY 2/1/24 TO WCRAASC, PO BOX 1922 MINOT ND 58702 ATTEND IN-PERSON OR VIA ZOOM (LINK
PROVIDED AFTER REGISTRATION)

ASL SERVICE:

YES ☐ NO ☐

SPANISH:

YES ☐ NO ☐

COFFEE PASS:

YES ☐ NO ☐

NAME: _____ AREA: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____

HOME GROUP: _____ PHONE: _____

SERVICE POSITION: _____ EMAIL: _____

Area 35 Spring Assembly

April 6th-7th, 2024

Crookston Inn & Convention Center

2200 University Ave
Crookston, MN 56716

Room Rates: Two Queen Beds or One King Bed \$99.99 + tax per night
(Wi-fi & continental breakfast included)

To make reservations please call: (218) 470-1000

Reserve under: Area 35 Block

Cut Off Date: March 5, 2024

Saturday, April 6

9:00 AM Registration

10:00 AM Assembly Convenes

Sunday, April 7

9:00 AM Assembly Reconvenes



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

“Concerning any given service, we pose but one question: ‘Is this service really needed?’ If it is, then maintain it we must, or fail in our mission to those who seek AA.”

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., July 1955, “What Is the Third Legacy?”, *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 15th due to the January General Service Board Meeting.

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

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

Thank you for your help.

Agenda
Deadline Dates

September 15th

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

February 15th

Delegate receives Agenda Items from the General Service Office 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.

4th Sunday in February

Agenda Items are distributed to Area 35 electronically or by hard copy from the Delegate at the Aitkin Committee Meeting.

1st Weekend in March

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

1st Weekend in April

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

3rd Week in April

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

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
CONTACT

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

Dr. Bob on Anonymity

“As far as anonymity was concerned we knew who we were. It wasn’t only AA, but our social life. All of our lives seemed to be spent together. We took people home with us to dry out. The Cleveland group had the names, addresses, and phone numbers of all the members,” said Warren. “In fact, I remember Dr. Bob saying,

“If I got up and gave my name as Dr. Bob S., people who needed help would have a hard time getting in touch with me.”

Warren recalled, “He [Dr. Bob] said there were two ways to break the Anonymity Tradition: (1) by giving your name at the public level of press or radio; (2) by being so anonymous that you can’t be reached by other drunks.”

In an article in the February 1969 Grapevine: “Dr. Bob on Tradition Eleven,” Volume 25, Issue 9, D. S. Of San Mateo, California, wrote that Dr. Bob commented on the Eleventh Tradition, “We need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films,” as follows:

“Since our Tradition of Anonymity designates the exact level where the line should be held, it must be obvious to everyone who can read and understand the English Language that to maintain Anonymity at any other level is definitely a Violation of this Tradition.”

“The AA who hides his identity from his fellow AAs by using only a given name Violates The Tradition just as much as the AA who permits his name to appear in the press in connection with matter pertaining to AA.”

“The former is maintaining his anonymity ABOVE the level of press, radio and films, and the latter is maintaining his anonymity BELOW the level of press, radio and films—whereas the tradition states that we should maintain our anonymity ‘AT’ the level of press, radio and films.”

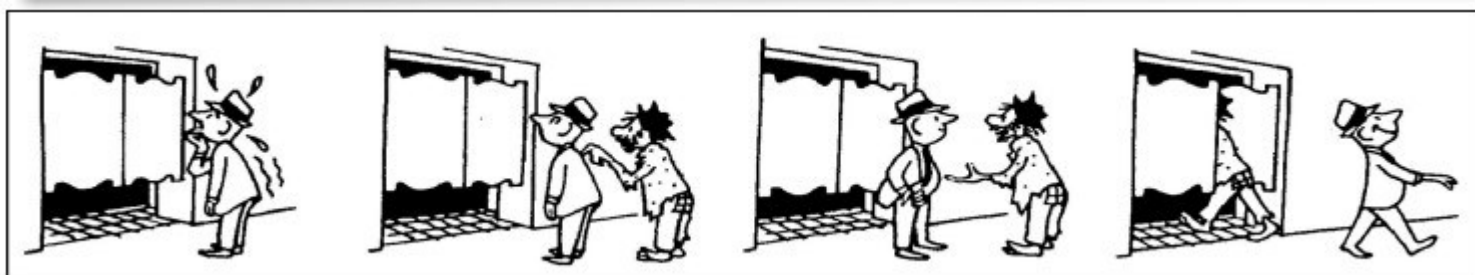
Ernie G. of Toledo, commenting on what he saw to be an increase of anonymity within AA today as compared with the old days, said, “I made a lead [trip to bring message] over to Jackson [Michigan] one night, and everybody’s coming up to me and saying, ‘I’m Joe; ‘I’m Pete.’ Then one of the guys said, ‘Safe journey home. If you get into any trouble, give me a buzz.’

Later, I said to the fellow who was with me, ‘You now, suppose we did get into trouble on the way home. How would we tell anyone in AA? We don’t know anyone’s last name.’ They get so doggone carried away with this anonymity that it gets to be a joke.” I had a book [evidently one of the small address books compiled by early members or their wives] with the first hundred names—first and last—telephone numbers, and where they lived.

Dr. Bob’s views on anonymity remained clear in the recollections of Akron’s Joe P. [The Dartmouth grad]. Though it was not the custom in the mid-1940’s to give AA talks to anyone except drunks, Joe noted, a few members formed an unofficial public information committee that started to speak to Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs throughout the state.

Excerpt from *Dr. Bob and The Good Oldtimers*, p 264-265

Submitted by Marc N - Area 35 Archivist



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 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 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 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.

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!!!
- | 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 |
- 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 22nd : Flier will be included in the January/February Issue

◆ March 1st : Flier will be included in the March/April Issue

◆ April 30th : Flier will be included in the May/June Issue

◆ July 2nd : Flier will be included in the July/August Issue

◆ September 2nd : Flier will be included in the September/October Issue

◆ October 29th : 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
- FC - Fellowship Connection
- 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)

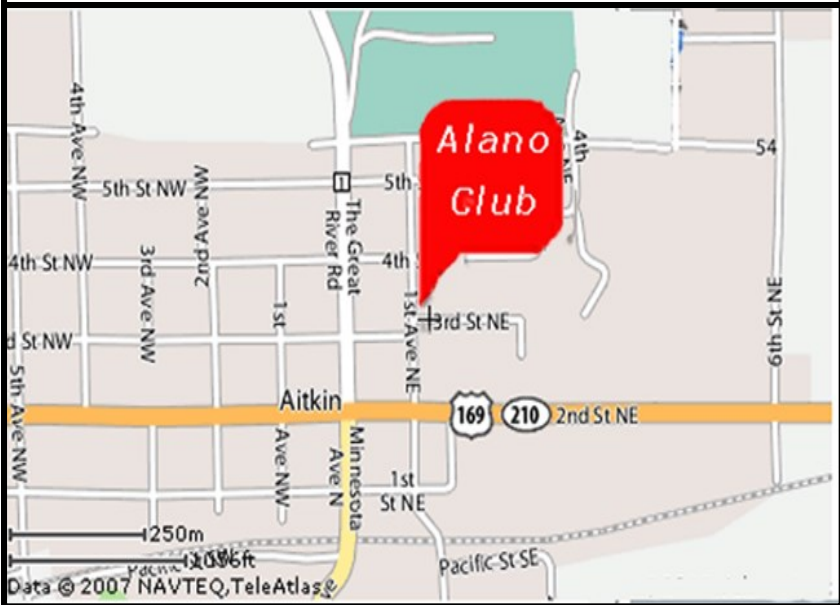
AREA 35 EVENTS
INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

- 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 12

Nov/Dec 2023

NORTHERN LIGHT

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Created 1982

Page 23

OUR PAST DELEGATES

<div>Panel 702020-2021</div> <div>Jim S</div>	<div>Panel 381988-1989</div> <div>Scott J</div>	<div>Panel 121962-1963</div> <div>Donna T (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 682018-2019</div> <div>Christine G</div>	<div>Panel 361986-1987</div> <div>Louie H</div>	<div>Panel 101960-1961</div> <div>Bob B (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 662016-2017</div> <div>Kelly D</div>	<div>Panel 341984-1985</div> <div>Bob P (deceased)</div>	<div>Panel 81958-1959</div> <div>Pearl N (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 642014-2015</div> <div>Michael “Jake” J</div>	<div>Panel 321982-1983</div> <div>Tom L (deceased)</div>	<div>Panel 61956-1957</div> <div>Waldo H (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 622012-2013</div> <div>Jim K</div>	<div>Panel 301980-1981</div> <div>Don M (deceased)</div>	<div>Panel 41954-1955</div> <div>Wendell H (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 602010-2011</div> <div>Jon C</div>	<div>Panel 281978-1979</div> <div>Garfield (Duffy) S (deceased)</div>	<div>Panel 21952-1953</div> <div>Arthur R (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 582008-2009</div> <div>JoAnne M N</div>	<div>Panel 261976-1977</div> <div>Vern R (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 562006-2007</div> <div>Jerry S</div>	<div>Panel 241974-1975</div> <div>Gordon B. H (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 542004-2005</div> <div>Charlie C</div>	<div>Panel 221972-1973</div> <div>Frank P. J (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 522002-2003</div> <div>Tim C</div>	<div>Panel 201970-1971</div> <div>Clarence B (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 502000-2001</div> <div>Tom A</div>	<div>Panel 181968-1969</div> <div>Dave H (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 481998-1999</div> <div>Susie A</div>	<div>Panel 161966-1967</div> <div>Arno A (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 461996-1997</div> <div>Bill P (deceased)</div>	<div>Panel 141964-1965</div> <div>Donald F (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 441994-1995</div> <div>Bruce B</div>			
<div>Panel 421992-1993</div> <div>Greg G (deceased)</div>			
<div>Panel 401990-1991</div> <div>Bob J</div>			

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">Attend the Conference meeting in April, fully prepared. Immediately upon election, every delegate is put on the G.S.O. mailing list to receive Conference materials.Communicate the actions of the Conference to area committee members and encourage them to pass on this information, and the delegate’s enthusiasm, to groups and to intergroups/central offices. If an area is too large for the delegate to cover in person, he or she will ask area officers and committee members to share the load.Be prepared to attend all area, state/provincial, and regional service meetings and assemblies. From these meetings, delegates come to better understand their own areas and can make suggestions for the Conference agenda. Here, too, they come in contact with A.A. members who might not be reached otherwise.Help area committees obtain financial support for the area and G.S.O.Provide leadership in solving local problems involving the A.A. Traditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Remind G.S.R.s to inform groups and individuals about the A.A. Grapevine and Conference-approved literature.Cooperate with G.S.O. in obtaining information—for example, making sure that up-to-date information reaches G.S.O. in time to meet the deadline for each Issue of the A.A. directory and helping carry out the triennial membership surveys.Visit groups and districts in the area whenever possible.Work closely with committee members and officers, sharing experience throughout the year. After G.S.R.s and committee members have reported on the Conference, learn from these A.A.s how groups and members have reacted.Assume added responsibility if the area chair and alternate chair are unable to serve. Or, if an area committee is not functioning effectively, the delegate may take an active role in remedying the situation.Keep the alternate delegate fully informed and active, so that the alternate can replace the delegate in an emergency.Late in the second term, work with newly elected delegates to pass along a basic knowledge of Conference proceedings and problems.

AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETING
Agenda
Aitkin, MN
December 3, 2023

<div><div>_____ 9:00 A.M. Action Chair Committee Meetings (9:30 a.m. Financial Oversight Committee)</div><div>_____ 10:30 A.M. Area Committee Meeting</div><div>_____ Call to Order Open with the Serenity Prayer</div><div>_____ Recognize Past Delegates</div><div>_____ Add to Agenda</div><div>_____ Approve Minutes from August ACM</div><div>OFFICER REPORTS</div><div>_____ Delegate – Steve L</div><div>_____ Alternate Delegate –</div><div>_____ Chair – Christine G</div><div>_____ Secretary – Sally L</div><div>_____ Treasurer – Vicki R</div><div>COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS</div><div>_____ Financial Oversight Committee</div><div>_____ WEBMASTER – Kyle H</div><div>_____ NORTHERN LIGHT – Heidi B</div><div>_____ District 3 – Melvin S</div><div>_____ GROUP RECORDS – Denise R</div><div>_____ District 16 – Dave C</div><div>_____ LITERATURE – Pat M</div><div>_____ District 12 – Terry A</div><div>_____ District 5 – Jarrin V</div><div>_____ PUBLIC INFORMATION - Nels P</div><div>_____ District 2 –</div><div>_____ District 4 – James W</div><div>_____ TREATMENT – Ricco R</div><div>_____ District 6 – Julie N</div><div>_____ District 7 – Bob N</div><div>_____ CPC – Greg C</div><div>_____ District 18 – Scott S</div><div>_____ District 15 – Lisa M</div><div>_____ ARCHIVIST – Marc N</div><div>_____ ARCHIVES – Renell P</div><div>_____ District 11 – Kathy M</div><div>_____ District 14 –</div><div>_____ GRAPEVINE – Mike U</div></div>	<div><div>_____ District 1 -</div><div>_____ District 13 – Jim R</div><div>_____ District 21 – Jennifer T</div><div>_____ CORRECTIONS – Mark R</div><div>_____ Statewide Corrections – Corrections</div><div>_____ District 9 - Diane R</div><div>_____ District 8 - Heather L</div><div>12:00 P.M. Lunch</div><div>12:45 P.M. Reconvene</div><div>OLD BUSINESS</div><div>_____</div><div>NEW BUSINESS:</div><div>_____ Sound Tech Equipment</div><div>_____ Incoming Area Chair present 2024-2025 Area Committee for approval</div><div>_____ Draw DCM Committee Assignments</div><div>_____ 2024 Budgets due by January 12th, 2024</div><div>_____</div><div>_____ Calendar of Events</div><div>_____ Adjourn</div></div>
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Please remember to include your group service number on all contributions.
This will ensure that your contributions get credited to your group.

Mail Area 35 Group contributions to:

NMAA
37258 Lakeland Rd
Sturgeon Lake, MN 55783