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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

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2024-25 AREA 35 COMMITTEE

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The Northern Light 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.

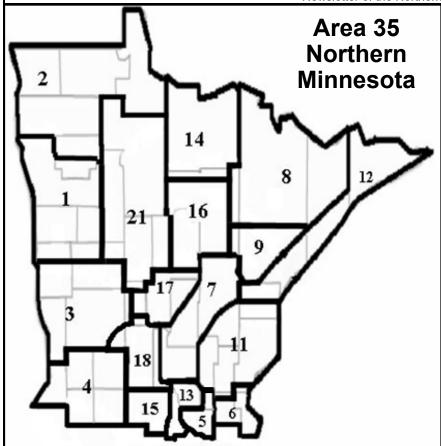
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Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly



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

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)

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

^{*} 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.

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Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

AREA 35 MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED

Area 35 August 2023 ACM Minutes Aitkin, MN December 3, 2023

Call to Order: Area Chair Christine G. called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 3, 2023, and opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Recognition of Past Delegates In Attendance: Jake J, Panel 64; Kelly D. Panel 66.

Additions to agenda: February ACM; WCRAASC in Minot; Treasurer and Webmaster laptops; Quickbooks for Treasurer

Points of order:

Two-minute limit for sharing at the mic.

The purpose of the Area Committee and this meeting is focused on the health of the area and thus on growth and harmony in the AA Fellowship. The area committee does not create policy. We take care of "maintenance and upkeep issues."

Avoid crosstalk as it makes it hard to hear.

When speaking or asking questions, go to the mic.

Approval of August 2023 ACM Minutes: Heidi B. motioned to approve the minutes, Pat M. seconded, MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – STEVEN L

Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen,

You would think the last few months of this rotation would enable me to skip out with only minor questions as any lame duck typically does. It was brought to my attention that I should keep my last report short and simple, unfortunately, I can't. I have attended two major online meetings since my report in the Nov/Dec Northern Light. One was my monthly Regional meeting, and the other was a full conference online meeting, so we have lots of information to cover.

At the October General Service Board (GSB) meeting Scott H. (Hugo Bear), former Trustee At Large – Canada, is the Trustees' nominating committee's submission for the GSB Chair up for approval during the 74th General Service Conference (GSC). Scott H. is a class B Trustee, I believe this is the first time a class B Trustee has been up for approval as the GSB Chair by the GSC for a full sixyear term. Having said that, we are now looking for a class A Trustee. In the past the GSB Chair has been a Class A Trustee. Today a vacancy that was left in the slate of class A trustees needs to be filled which was left open for the GSB Chair position. If you want more information, you can read the service manual (the current big red SM) in Appendix O, particularly on Pages 132 and 135 for a detailed explanation.

It was reported by Kerry M, a class A trustee and the WCR point of contact, at our WCR Delegates meeting and reaffirmed two weeks later at the Conference meeting by Keven P (GSB Treasurer) that we, as Alcoholics Anonymous, are in a financial squeeze. We are having a cash flow dilemma. Group contributions are steady and on track with last year's contributions. The problem is with book sales. There is a two-fold problem with AAWS book sales, one is that the profit margin has tightened because of an increase in cost of goods for printing. The second is that book sales are down partly because of the price increase from last year. We were expecting that this year would get tight, and it has. The Finance Committee is confident that we will be able to pay our bills at the rate we have been paying them through the end of the year without having to draw down on the prudent reserve. Kerry stated that we are chasing the accounts receivable more with the private companies than with our Intergroups and Central Offices. We won't send them more product until they pay us. Mike L., interim GSB Chair, has been diligent about getting both AAWS Publishing and Grapevine to figure out who owes them money and to go collect it in a loving but firm way. A drawdown, if any, will be addressed at the January GSB meeting where they will have a better handle on where we stand financially.

In other highlights from the October GSB meeting:

Grapevine - the new GV App had 18,538 downloads plus 2,300 new subscriptions giving a \$43,484 net gain. 7,000 people downloaded the app and did not subscribe. LV had 596 downloads, 70 subscriptions for a \$831 net profit. Other GV news is that they are working on gift certificates/codes, and monthly bonus articles. The Podcast had 640K downloads – and will be adding a female co-host to alternate with one of the male co-hosts. The GV will be offering a 20% discount and free shipping for Nov/Dec on GV products. The 80th Anniversary of the GV is June 2024.

Literature - had 57 PAIs with many being repeats.

Public Information - the GSO Podcast is ready to roll in 2024 (English-only for the first year)

CPC - Professional Service Card is done, and so is the pamphlet "A.A. in

your Community".

Treatment and Accessibilities - the Military Outreach Project continues with the first two audios available at AA.org with the next three audios in editing.

International Desk - licensing of literature to other countries is completely caught up — we are now producing in our 3 languages. They just completed the Spanish translation.

Progress on the WCRF report - Kerry stated that it takes a long time to summarize. She said she wasn't worried about it being late. She also stated there was a problem with the recording of the last session, so they were recreating that session.

Cara C., Delegate from Nebraska, asked, "How many consultants do we have working and how much do we think an Appointed Committee Member [ACM] would cut down the costs?" Kerry stated that there are different kinds of consultants. We paid the consultant for the Board Chair search. We paid a company for help with the ad-hoc committee - Location Plus. The Military Outreach consultants are not paid, they are volunteers. We pay for their travel to Board weekends and the GSC. The reason why the Military Project started with consultants rather than appointed committee members is because the process of bringing in an appointed committee member takes place after the Conference. The Conference asked us to do a military outreach to veterans, not just active military personnel. We will continue the project but move to the more traditional ACMs. Appointed Committee Members terms go from July to July, and we wanted the veterans to start in January. Consultants' terms can go from January to January. On the Military Project, the consultants acted as advisors. We are just switching year types.

I have been receiving quarterly contribution reports from the GSB for the last two quarters and am forwarding them to the DCMs. The problem I have with the reports is that they only address the quarter of the report and not the year-to-date contributions a group has made. So, I asked Kerry M. to pass on a request to add year-to-date information to the reports.

I sent an email to all the GSRs and DCMs that had an email on record with the Area's Group Record Secretary giving information on a new membership survey and how to access it at three different locations. How many of you completed the survey? What I found troubling about this particular survey was that the Delegates had no notice that it was to be distributed in the Folding Chair app or online at aa.org. It was out for a week before I heard or knew about it. To say the least, it is a bit troubling for the current Delegates in the WCR.

Mary M., from Wyoming (current Conference PI Committee Chair), was informed that Deb K., Chair of the Trustees PI Committee, was asked by Chris M., the incoming Public Information Chair, "Why was the membership survey launched without prior communication to the Delegates or the Fellowship"? Deb K.'s response was, "This is a great question because we usually do utilize the traditional service structure of the Delegates and engage the Fellowship so one would naturally expect this. However, the purpose of the convenient sampling is to access what we would survey samples that are conveniently accessed here through AA.org, the Meeting Guide app in contrast to the traditional structure of the paper and pencil method. If we used the Delegates to get the word out, we would be designing a sample with a hybrid recruitment strategy involving both convenience and networking sampling. The latter is through the Delegates, so it is better not to engage unless asked questions." It was asked if there was any documentation that could be shared with Delegates about the approach. Deb K. said they have not created any. Mary reported that Chris M. drafted several questions and sent them today and has already gotten a response about it being discouraging that there was no communication. Kerry M. interjected that with convenience sampling they are trying to figure out who is using the things they have

In Kerry's report, she mentioned Google Ads was back being used by the GSB. I asked, "Just out of curiosity, can you explain why Google Ads is back? My Area was so excited they were gone, now they're back." Tried to explain that Google Ads turned us off without explanation. When we contacted them, there still was no explanation, but suddenly they were turned back on. The problem with not having Google Ads is that we don't show up on searches. Then Alcoholics Anonymous.com, a private for-profit organization, gets all your AA hits instead of AA.org. That's the reason we want Google Ads, so when people search, they find us not for profit. I mentioned our concern is how it's being paid for. We are getting free money, and we should pay for it. Just like we do with producing PSAs, the cost of paying for Google Ads would be the same as producing a PSA a year. Kerry's response was the same line, we accept Google Ads because it doesn't charge any non-profits for its use. I reiterated again other non-profits don't have our Traditions it's up to us to follow them. I received the same response from Deb K. Chair of the Trustees PI Committee at the online conference meeting when I asked her about Google Ads too.

I sent another email to all the GSRs and DCMs that had an email on record with the Area's Group Record Secretary. This email was about a Literature Questionnaire that the Trustees Literature Committee posted a few hours before the online Conference meeting on our new Onboard message system. Basically, all the Delegates heard about the questions at the online Conference meeting. Here is what I know about the Literature Questionnaire. It came from the Trustees Literature Committee and these questions arose out of this Finance Committee Consideration:

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The committee considered a request to discuss proposed agenda items related to changes to the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*. The committee suggested that the Trustees' Literature Committee seek input from the Fellowship (including but not limited to Area delegate feedback) regarding any possible future changes to literature written by A.A.'s founders. The committee requested that a progress report be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Finance. (Mindful of budgetary restraints, the committee suggests financial prudence when determining how best to obtain Fellowship sharing.)

Questions to be considered might include:

Should suggested revisions be subjected to a 2-year Conference review process?

Should any future suggested changes retain the original writing with footnotes for the text being updated or should the founder's writings remain unchanged?

Should there be a threshold for review (group, district, area)?

Should the changes to the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* by the 2021 General Service Conference remain?

Should a new policy regarding Bill W.'s writing be created as a guide to future changes?

I believe the questions being asked by the trustees' Literature Committee are extremely leading. It seems the questions are Inviting people to give reasons for changing AA literature. The questions could have been asked in a more neutral way. I did send a letter to all the Delegates, Mike L., the GSB chair, Kerry M., and the Literature Desk which will forward to the Literature Trustees Committee.

Please take the time to fill out the Literature Questionnaire. The questions are to be answered by a group, not individually. Return your Group's response to delegate@area35.org by the end of February 2024. This will give Diane a sense of our Area's feeling about changes to the founder's writings including the 12x12, As Bill Sees It, AA Comes of Age, Pamphlets like Problems other than Alcohol, Three Talks of Bill W., and the like. At the 74th GSC, they are planning to have a two-hour block set aside for discussion of these questions.

I can't express enough the need for the Groups to have a GSR and accurate information given to the Area's Group Record Secretary on how to get in touch with them. Information is being transferred at breakneck speeds now.

Less than ten years ago, the Delegate was in the transition of correspondence by snail mail to email. Meetings between the Delegate and our WCR Trustee were a conference call maybe once or twice a year plus the annual meeting at the WCRAASC. We only received all the PAIs for all to read in the last sixteen to twenty years. Now the Delegate attendees a monthly online meeting for the WCR. Three to four full conference online meetings will be scheduled to share information between the Delegates and the GSB.

We have about five hundred Groups in Area 35, when I sent out these timesensitive emails, I only had 243 email addresses and about half a dozen came back undeliverable. If we love AA, we have to be a part of it. The only way to be a part is to participate in the discussions. So let us try and help groups participate as we do with helping the suffering sot on the street.

One thing I forgot to mention, the 2035 International Convention which will be the 100-year anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous, will be held in <u>Indianapolis Indiana</u>.

It's been a wonderful pleasure serving with you. In Service Steve L.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – POSITION OPEN

Greetings Area 35,

Everything is mostly set for the January Workshop at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud.

Please make your reservations by 12/12/23.

I have sent for the banner to be made and should be seeing a proof, if we haven't already.

I was able to talk with Sterlin Catering and we are able to utilize the area by the pool for an ice cream social after the Saturday night speaker. I will make sure the ice cream, bowl and spoons are available.

I am working on finalizing our coffee situation and we will make sure there will be water available.

Once we get to the finalizing stages, I will start including Area 35 incoming Alt. Delegate, so he is in the loop.

Past Delegate Kelly has been in contact with all the district that will be presenting and some of the districts have reached out with questions about their presentations. If you have any further questions, please let her know. Thank you to all the districts for their willingness to participate and a big thank you to Kelly for helping with the workshop.

Thank you, Christine G.

CHAIR - CHRISTINE G

Greetings Area 35,

This is my last report as Area Chair. Area 35 will be left in good hands with the upcoming rotation. Treat your trusted servants with patience, love and understanding.

The Fall Assembly 2025 location is set and will take place at the Grand Ely Lodge. They were the most reasonable during peak fall color season. This zone will always be expensive in the fall.

Ad hoc committees are still being formed. I will be working with the incoming chair to put these in place. We have three to form: Technologies/Virtual Events, Area Inventory and Zonal Forums. If you are interested, please let me know or email areachair@area35.org.

I will continue to work with incoming area chair and will make myself as available when asked to help with the transition.

I attended the Corrections Workshop hosted by Area 35/36 Joint Statewide Corrections Committee. The event had great speakers and was well organized.

Please make reservations sooner than later for Spring Assembly in Crookston, it fills up fast.

You will be seeing an email from out Treasurer, Vicki, with an attachment for 2024 budgets, please go over this budget with the incoming committee chair. The locations and hotel prices are included at the bottom of the spreadsheet. These will be due back to the Area Treasurer by December 30th to ensure they get into the Northern Light for the January/February Edition and will be voted on at the Spring Assembly.

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

SECRETARY – SALLY L

Greetings, Area 35.

Since the Fall Assembly, I have gotten the unapproved minutes completed and sent out. They have been printed in the Northern Light.

I have begun working on the last set of minutes for this rotation, as well as the Past Actions book. I have proofread for the Area Chair and the Northern Light editor. I will spend the next rotation serving District 8 as its Alt DCM. I am looking forward to doing that. I hope I can be helpful to the district. I will miss seeing everyone at the Area.

It has been an eventful rotation, and I am glad that I had the opportunity to serve as the Area Secretary. I have enjoyed the fellowship and the feeling of helping Alcoholics Anonymous in this position. I am grateful that I had the opportunity. Happy Holidays to everyone!

Reports are due Monday, December 11, 2023.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. Sally L.

TREASURER - VICKI R

ACM - Treasurer Report 12/3/23 - Revised 12/9/23

Hello! Group finances through 11/30/23:

YTD

 Group Contributions
 \$47,841

 Birthday/Other
 \$20,666

 Total
 \$68,507

Total Expenses \$\frac{\$(51,639}{}\$ Net Income \$16,868

PD 6 10/1/23 - 11/30/23

 Group Contributions
 \$ 6,429

 Birthday/Other
 \$ 3,113

 Total
 \$ 9,542

 Expense
 \$ (12,716)

 Net loss
 \$ (3,174)

Oct group contributions was \$2,547, previous high was 3,076 in 2021 Nov group contributions was \$3,882, previous high was \$3,156 in 2019

227 (up from 216 end of Sep) groups have contributed through Nov 30, 49 =>\$300 or 21.59%.
32 =>\$400 or 14%

32 =>\$400 or 14%

Grapevine sales and purchases: \$1,077 – purchases: \$926 = 151 More sold than purchased.

Literature sales and purchase: Sales: \$11,706 - purchase: \$10,776 = \$930 More sold than purchased.

The budgeted income is \$42,000; minus \$67,622; taking in \$25,622 more than planned.

If we compare the approved budget of \$88,457 to the actual income so far in 2023, we are \$20,835 short, but groups did a tremendous job increasing contributions this year.

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Cash projections:

Register balance at 11/30/23: \$24,500 Expected receipts Dec: \$ 3,054 Expected expenses Dec (\$7,140) Net cash on Dec 31, 23: \$20,414

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

I've sent the Oct files to the Financial Oversight Committee for review.

Question for the body: Should the 2023 budget be amended to remove expenses from WCR and WCRF to more accurately reflect financial information when reporting budget to actual for 2023?

Question from the floor: Have we paid Area 36 for State Fair - answer - no

Revised report – to include checks deposited in the bank in Nov, but not entered into Quickbooks. There was also several literature purchases made in Nov that were not included in Quickbooks. I apologize for the differences.

Yours in service Vicki R.

COMMITTEE CHAIR & DCM REPORTS

FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE - BRENT T

My name is Brent T., I am an alcoholic.

Jim S. and I reviewed the Area's finances individually, and on a phone conversation yesterday morning (12/2/23). We did have one unresolved question, but Vicki was able to explain that issue to my satisfaction and I can report that all of the reconciliation reports match the Wells Fargo bank statement to the penny.

I would like to thank Christine for assigning me to the Financial Oversight Committee. Jim and I would both like to thank the Area for allowing and trusting us with this service responsibility.

WEBMASTER - KYLE H

Verbal report given.

NORTHERN LIGHT – HEIDI B

Hello Area 35 –

We had 6 in attendance in our NL/Webmaster/Group Records meeting this morning. We discussed Northern Light schedules, Group Records registration and upcoming tech needs and costs.

Since Fall Assembly, I've been organizing the Northern Light archives, including the digital files for the upcoming NL Editor. Everything is sorted and saved in appropriate folders. I purchased an archival box to store and protect the past issues. I passed the old Northern Light computer to our webmaster.

You should have received the last issue of the Northern Light for 2023 and for my rotation as Northern Light Editor. What a journey this has been! I thank you all for allowing me this opportunity.

The deadline for the next issue is December 30. All fliers, article submissions and Northern Light reports are due prior to that date. The minutes from today and Northern Light reports will be in the first issue of 2024 and the incoming Northern Light editor (Jennifer T). I will be working with Jennifer to put that issue together.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. Heidi

DISTRICT 3 – MELVIN S

District 3 had our elections for district positions on 11/19/2023. Although we have more GSRs present now, we did not get people motivated to stand for district positions as we hoped. We now have a new corrections chair Paul H. with Bill D. stepping down but staying on the hotline phone for now. Most other positions will be staying on for now including myself. Still open positions are alternate DCM, secretary, and PI/CPC.

Corrections have been moving along with meetings finally being allowed in Becker County jail. Clay County is being covered by the FM intergroup, Ottertail County jail has volunteers going in for meetings. Wadena County would like meetings, but we have not found anyone to take this on yet.

Treatment centers in Becker County have volunteers attending bringing along some literature.

After our visit with Greg C from CPC, Bill D. was motivated to produce a QR code which we are trying to use to get people to go directly to the district 3 website. We had business cards with QR code and hotline phone number to hand out.

The Round Robin meetings are going well. Perham in September with 85 attendees, Detroit Lakes in October 65 attendees and Wadena in November with 55+. Due to the seasonal migration of our species, meeting attendance is lower than usual, but this is always to be expected. Groups are keeping us funded to be able to do our 12-step work.

In Service, Melvin S.

GROUP RECORDS – DENISE R

Greetings all, December 2nd

It has been a normal month of continuing to fulfill the work of Group Records. I have sent all DCM's a DCM Change Form, please fill those out with the information needed from your new DCM's as soon as you are able. Once their information has been entered, they will receive their DCM kits and get information needed for accessing Fellowship Connection. DCM and GSR kits are sent out digitally. If you would like the print version mailed to you, please make sure you check the box indicated on the form.

As far as I am aware there are no forms to fill out for District Chair positions for Treatments, Corrections, PI etc. You can email me your District Chair's name and contact information of home address and email and I will get them listed in Fellowship Connection so they can receive their kits and literature from the General Service Office. If you have any questions let me know. As always if you are moving or leaving for the winter months, please send me your change of address so I may update the Northern Light mailing list. There were returns again that totaled \$11.87.

As my time comes to an end as your Group Records Registrar I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve in this way. I have learned so much, it has been a privilege and joy to serve.

Thank you, Denise R

DISTRICT 16 – DAVE C

No report.

<u>LITERATURE – PAT M</u>

Hello area 35

Pat M and I am an alcoholic this is my last report as a literature chair. it's been a privilege and an honor to serve area 35. Sales of literature have been pretty good. I believe I moved eight cases of big books in the last 2 months and Daily Reflections. I also attended the corrections workshop, there were amazing speakers there.

I do like the idea that district 5 has a quarterly budget, they put \$250 aside to buy literature, to keep literature in stock. Whatever they need, they pick up. Eventually, all they will have to do is replace literature that they sell. it will be self-sufficient.

Being a literature chair gives you a great opportunity to meet a lot of people and hear a lot of opinions on literature, such as the plain and simple language book. The best-selling book that we sell is the big book. Once again thank you for allowing me to be your literature rep

Yours in service Pat M

DISTRICT 12 – TERRY A

Verbal report given.

DISTRICT 5 – JARRIN V

Hello everyone

Jarrin here from district 5. district 5 has its monthly business meeting on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran church in Princeton. Last month there was either 22 or 25 in attendance at the meeting. It's nice to see there's that much interest in involvement at the district level these days. like to see it keep growing.

We did get all of the voting done for the next rotation and all of the district chair positions are filled. I believe there will be some alternates coming along also. I don't have enough time to share with you all about the amazing time that I have had being the district 5 DCM over this last rotation. I have got to watch so much growth. And I have learned more about the program of alcoholics anonymous and ways to be helpful then I ever would have imagined just by being in service. It's been worth every ounce of effort that everyone has put into our district growing.

Looking forward to taking some time for myself and family. The service work is definitely something that I am going to try and stay involved with at some level, just not exactly sure what direction I'm going to go next. So, I'm going to take some time and think about that.

Yours in service, Jarrin V.

PUBLIC INFORMATION – NELS P

Greetings Area 35

In our PI/CPC Committee meeting we had 8 in attendance

District 6 has a new billboard with their hotline number on it and they are active with the jail, probation, treatment as well as with the local veteran's clinic.

District 8 is active bringing books to the library, distributing pamphlets and meeting schedules.

District 9 Is getting a lot of web hits with their page, they are working with Treatment centers, with police and probation as well as the veteran's administration and hospitals.

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District 12 Has had the Detox request meeting schedules, they are working with four different police stations, as well as providing info to hotels and they had a booth at project connect and had a lot of people stop at their

District 11 is working with clinics in Sandstone, and they are getting QR codes on their directories and posting them in many places.

As for me your area pi chair it has been an honor to serve.

DISTRICT 2 –

No DCM

DISTRICT 4 – JAMES W

TREATMENT - RICCO R

I just received a Client Bridging the Gap referral from Lake place Treatment Center in northern MN. I forwarded the request to Glenn M. the Treatment Chair for District 16 to take care of and find someone to take the client to the AA meetings in Grand Rapids MN, where he is heading.

Patti D. District 3 treatment chair reports they have 3 groups that take in person AA meetings in 3 outpatient treatment centers. They also have a new QR code for District 3 for the treatment centers that is easy to use to find all the meetings in the district.

Jeff J. District 9 Treatment Chair has planned to have speakers go into to a treatment center in Hibbing MN. on a schedule favorable to the treatment center. Jeff has AAs scheduled into February already to go speak.

Peggy M. and Robin J. District 13 attended the March Conference with Area 36. Peggy reported a very receptive group of treatment centers and other facilities that work with alcoholics that stopped at their booth and picked up materials and were very interested in the Bridging the Gap Program. Peggy also reported that District 13 started a new meeting in the Detox Center in St. Cloud.

Julie N. Janet, Jeff, District 6 reported we have a new Treatment Chair (Josh) coming in. We also have two treatment centers allowing us to speak with

We had 10 people present at our Area 35 Treatment Committee today (12/3/). Julie N. DCM, Jeff O. treatment sit in, Janet R. Alt DCM District 6, Jennifer Zavala District 1 DCM. Jess S. District 7 Alt DCM, Patti D. District 3 Treatment Chair, Peggy M. Treatment Chair, Robin J. District 13, Bob N. District 7 DCM, Ricco Area 35 Treatment Chair.

We had a very lively committee meeting and some of what we went over is written above.

I attended the Corrections Workshop held in Foley MN., on 11/18/2023. It was a very well put together workshop and the presenters for the workshop did an excellent job covering their presentations. I talked with many AA's after it was done, and they felt the same way.

We will be having our last meeting of the Statewide Treatment Committee on 12/10/23, at 4:30. We in Area 35 are rotating out but Area 36 goes for one more year until they rotate.

Our new Area 35 Treatment Chair will take off where we are now with the Statewide Treatment Committee and Patrick S. the Area 36 Treatment Chair will be the Chair of the Statewide Committee for one year. Then our new Area 35 Treatment Chair will take the next year after Patrick S. rotates out and be the new Statewide Treatment Chair for one year. Because we rotate differently this is the process we came up with.

On the topic of rotating out I would like to thank everyone in Area 35, especially The Area 35 Treatment Committee which has made it so easy for me to be the chair with all their help. Most of the projects we did where brought up by the treatment committee and then they offered to do all the work involved in making the projects work. I am not going away however because I have volunteered to do two years on the Statewide Corrections Committee for Area 35 and Area 36. Ricco

DISTRICT 6 – JULIE N

Hello Area 35 AA

I want to thank each and every person that has served at area level and the dedicated GSRs for the past two years. As we close all these two years, my gratitude for the people at District 6, I've had a lot of spiritual experiences helping and directing our district. We are definitely growing I want to thank my tailgate crew for all the support and the grills and the food they have brought, I could not have done this without District 6 as we finish up the two -year term, I look forward to the next two years of serving as the new DCM for District 6.

I will let everyone know next report who got what position we will see all of you in Saint Cloud for the workshop.

Godspeed, thank you for allowing me to serve Julie N

DISTRICT 7 – ROBERT N

Verbal report given.

CPC – GREG C

No report.

DISTRICT 18 – SCOTT S

No report.

DISTRICT 15 - LISA M

No report.

ARCHIVIST - MARC N

Dec 2023 ACM Archivist Report

As the Area Archivist, I have not made much progress with regard to establishing an inventory and working toward preservation of the archived items. There is lots to be done. In part this was due to expenses, I tried to be as frugal as possible, most of the funds that were budgeted were not spent. The rent of space for archives was the biggest part and was more than historically paid by Area35.

Quite often when selecting items for display at area assemblies and when requested at events I was hesitant to display items that were not aligned with traditions, but many times items contradicting traditions were displayed. It is a learning experience to know what items will attract newcomers and how the items will carry the message of experience, strength, and hope.

In the archive repository we have pretty much filled the existing bookcases. Thoughts are to box the duplicated books so that there is space for all the various books.

There are many boxes of loose papers, magazines, etc and there are a few different places where loose papers are stored in file drawers. District paper copies of minutes as sent to archives are in need of collecting into one location, then sorting by date, and then digitizing.

Regarding the preservation of audio media, I had been digitizing cassette tapes, but then discarding when there were issues of upholding traditions. My concern was anonymity as often the recorded speaker identified with full name; this was a common practice years ago because the recording was not thought to ever be on public media such as internet. I have since decided that it is more important to preserve these, and only allow playback by AA members of Area 35, how that will be accomplished is yet to be determined.

As I had mentioned in a recent report there are surprises amongst the items archived. Willard's hairpiece was one of these items. It is never known what item may hold significance to a longtimer or a newcomer.

In Humble Service, Marc N

ARCHIVES - RENELL P

This morning we met at the Archives Repository.

In attendance were Marc(Area Archivist), Cathy R.(upcoming Archives Chair), Kathy M. (DCM Dist. 11) and myself, Renell (Outgoing Archives

We made it a "work" meeting. There are always boxes and bins to sort out. We completed the sorting and arranging of the Grapevines and Literature.

This work will continue on after the meeting today and at future committee meetings.

We welcome Cathy. She seems to have a positive and eager attitude to caring for our Area treasures.

Thanks for supporting me these past 2 years.

Yours in service, Renell P

DISTRICT 11 – KATHY M

Verbal report given

DISTRICT 14 -

No DCM

GRAPEVINE – MIKE U

Greetings everyone

I'm mike your outgoing area 35 Grapevine chair I attended the Dec ACM meeting in Aitkin in our committee meeting there were 8 in attendance we talked about the importance of purchasing books in the month of November and December shipping is free and there is a 20% discount until the end of December.

District 5 reported that they set aside about \$250 a quarter so that they have plenty of books available which is a good idea. Also I attended the state wide corrections workshop, good attendance and very informative great job to all for bringing this together thank you all for your support and tolerance while I served as your area Grapevine chair. I'll be moving on to the new literature chair.

In love and service, Mike U

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DISTRICT 1 – JENNIFER Z

Hi, I'm Jennifer Z.and I'm an alcoholic. I'm the new District 1 DCM. I was elected at our October meeting, and our district is doing well. We currently have seven group meetings going strong., a healthy bank account, and we conduct our meetings the second Sunday of even numbered months.

The biggest annual event within district 1 is the Wild Rice Round-Up. The 21st Annual Wild Rice Round-Up will be February 2-4, 2024, and will be held as always at the Shooting Star Hotel and Event Center in Mahnomen, Minnesota, and draws hundreds of participants a year!

Our second biggest event, directly hosted by District 1 in Fertile, Minnesota, is the Spring Fling. The 42nd Annual Spring Fling will be next March or April, usually drawing from 40-60 people from around the state.

AA is still helping people out of state and I've been told at least four of the most recent past delegates have traveled North to give presentations in person to district 1, and we hope that tradition continues.

DISTRICT 13 – JIM R

This is my last ACM meeting today as district13 DCM. It's been an absolute privilege to serve alongside everyone this last rotation. Congratulations to all newly elected area 35 officers and chairs.

District13 held it's elections last month and I am happy to report Peggy M was elected DCM, We also elected an alt DCM, Secretary, Treasurer, PI Chair, & CPC Chair.

Lastly, I am pleased to announce that district 13 will again be bringing AA meetings into the St Cloud detox center.

Thank you for allowing me to Serve, Jim R

DISTRICT 21 – JENNIFER T

Greetings.

Our district meeting is at the Bemidji Alano club at 7pm in Gratitude Hall on the second Monday of the month. Attendance averages 12-15. We have a monthly potluck open speaker meeting on the last Saturday of the month.

We have registered a new group, re activated a couple unknown groups and registered some new GSR's in district 21.

Since the assembly, we have had a movie night showing Billie W and the 12 traditions. We are planning to show the Billie W story next month.

We are going to vote on changing our district rotation to correlate with our delegate. I have visited unregistered meetings to invite them to be registered groups.

We have a district website mnaadistrict21.org. We will have QR codes on business cards and are changing out hotline to a cloud-based communication

We have Open Corrections and CPC/PI positions.

CORRECTIONS – MARK R

Area 35 Corrections Chair Report

I attend, when possible, the weekly International Corrections Meetings.

I attended and hosted the 2023 Annual SWCC Corrections Workshop November 18th at Jack & Jim's Event Center in Duelm, MN!

Monthly, and for the remainder of 2023 & 2024 I Chair the Statewide Corrections Committee meetings.

The last MCF Transition Fair for 2023 was November 14th at MCF-Lino Lakes. We received a total of 18 CTCP (INSIDE) requests! 8 for Area 35 and 10 for Area 36. In the coming weeks, I will be reaching out for Temporary Contacts for these men, less fortunate than us in custody.

I continue to be available to help our Area 35 District Corrections Chairs & DCM's. Recently I attended District 13's Monthly meeting and was fortunate to experience their nominating and voting in of their new Officers and Chairs for the 2024-2025 rotation! I stepped in to assist them in starting up a 2nd A.A. meeting group to Carry the Message into MCF-St Cloud prison starting in January 2024!

We need CTCP Temporary Contacts. Please fill out a CTCP (OUTSIDE) form to volunteer for this awesome Service Work! Please consider volunteering.

"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

Yours in service, Mark R

FALL ASSEMBLY ACTION CHAIR COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

There were 8 in attendance. We opened with The Serenity prayer and introductions. We then followed by sharing about what is going on in our Districts and Corrections facilities.

Gary H. (District 11 Corrections Chair): We have 5 prisons and 2 county jails. 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 Tuesdays at Sandstone federal prison. Kanabec County via Zoom.

Cathy (District 6 GSR in North Branch): Continue to help bring A.A. meetings into Isanti County jail. Monday is work release. Thursdays is inside for men & women.

Paul (District 3 New GSR): Becker County just opened within last 3 weeks! There are no women's meetings (no women volunteers). Men's meetings every Sunday. Mark mentioned Benton County a volunteer of the opposite sex, they run the meeting via Closed circuit TV, then a man can facilitate a women's meeting and/or a woman could facilitate a men's meeting – no inperson contact – this may be an idea.

Tim V. (District 7 Corrections Chair): Aitkin & Crow Wing Counties have A.A. meetings. Aitkin is on Thursday nights.

Diane R. (District 9 DCM & Corrections): There are no corrections facilities in District 9. Diane attended the SWCC Corrections Workshop. Said it was a very good workshop! The food, venue was also very good. She said she had fun meeting everyone as she helped with registration.

Heather L. (District 8 DCM): The new Corrections Chair for next rotation is – Ryan B. The alternate is Jamey. The only facility in her district used to be called Thistledew – it is now named TOGO. The contact there is Gino Anselmo.

Jim R. (District 13 DCM): They held their elections and for next rotation there is no Treatment or Corrections Chair. Jim mentioned Mark R has helped to get an A.A. meeting into the 2nd Treatment Group (25 men) in MCF-ST Cloud prison. Meetings have been going on with Benton County jail. Mark mentioned Peggy, the incoming DCM for District 13 is working with Sarah C. to get the Stearns County meetings started up again.

Mark R. (Area 35 & District 5 Corrections Chair): Meetings continue to be going strong in District 5 at Sherburne & Mille Lacs County jails. We have 5 volunteers at Mille Lacs County and 5 at Sherburne on a constant rotation. Every Tuesday at Mille Lacs County (in-person) and 2nd & 4th Wednesday at Sherburne County (via Zoom). Mark Fritel, coordinator at Sherburne County jail, just returned from FMLA. Working with him on bringing A.A. meetings into the Women's Unit. We hope to start meetings in early 2024!

Will be starting a 2nd A.A. meeting at MCF-ST Cloud's 2nd Treatment Group (25 men). Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm.

Hosted the 2023 SWCC Corrections Workshop at Jack & Jim's Event Center in Duelm, MN. Awesome attendance, speakers, good lunch, and venue! The Area 35/Area 36 expenses for the workshop came to \$1131.99 with Area 35 half being \$565.99 – well under the \$750.00 budgeted amount!

Thanks so much to **Heather L.** for taking such wonderful minutes for our Action Committee meetings for the past 2 years!

Yours in Service, Mark R

Statewide Corrections Committee (SWCC) Chair Report

I was grateful to be able to host this year's SWCC Annual Corrections Workshop for 2023! It was a big success with over 50 people attending in-person and another 12 online. Thank all of you who helped make this year's workshop a success.

Special thanks to Diane R & Ricco R for handling Registration. Lucy k, Aaron A, Mike U, and Kelly D for all the help in planning and coordination. Thanks Kelly D for attracting Ken B to come all the way from Nebraska to be our First Speaker! Thanks to Mike U for being an awesome Greeter and Pat M for traveling down and bringing all the A.A. Corrections Literature. Special thanks to Kyle for all his time before and during the workshop taking care of both the Audio and running our first workshop online via TEAMS!

Feedback was that everyone loved the event location, and the quality of the lunch was outstanding. Thank you to the owners of Jack & Jim's (Orson and Justin) for taking such good care of us and our attendees. What a wonderful venue!

We received 8 new CTCP (INSIDE) requests for Temporary Contacts from the MCF-Lino Lakes Transition Fair in November. I will be contacting District DCM's and Corrections Chairs looking for assistance in finding volunteers for this awesome Service Work!

Please consider getting more involved in Corrections Work in A.A., attend our next SWCC meeting to see what we are doing across the State of Minne-

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sota!

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

SWCC Monthly Zoom Meeting Information

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

Meeting ID: 821 6093 8875 Passcode: 175607

Humbled & Honored to Serve you, Mark R

DISTRICT 9 – DIANE R

I attended the Statewide Corrections Workshop in Foley MN. It was an excellent workshop.

Ken B, Past West Central Regional Trustee, gave a presentation on the history of A.A. in Correctional Facilities and his personal journey with service work in these facilities. James N. told his story about how he was introduced to A.A. in a correctional facility and how he continues to carry his A.A. message into them. He stresses the need for individual A.A.s to be of service to bring meeting into these facilities. A Benton County Program Director for their jail explained their process for individuals in their jail and how we can be of service. Kelly D talked about bringing meeting into jail. Laura S. talked about the literature on tablets that is becoming available to individuals in correctional facilities. Craig H. talked about the need for A.A. members to sign up and become a Temporary Contact. Mark, Area 35 Corrections Chair, did an excellent job chairing and setting up.

Our CPC /PI chair , Tom T, continues to offer literature for A.A.s to bring into business and places where it could be useful. Our treatment Chair Jeff now having two speakers a month go into a local treatment center. We will start this month. Denise will fill in for Jeff while he is out of the area. Spots are filling up fast. Sandy, out literature chair, continues to contact the Area Literature chair, Pat, for our literature needs. Chuck, our alternate DCM, continues to be active having old-timers fill out the old-timer questionnaire, attending meetings and speaking at treatment center meetings. Our Web Manager, Phyllis, keeps our website up to date.

We talked about low attendance at some meetings in our district. There was talk of one closing. I called the contract person for that meeting. It turned out the others are going to try and keep the meeting going. I was happy I called her for current information on the group.

As I reflect on the last two years, I know that I have not done everything perfectly but did it to the best of my ability. I have made many new friends and kept in contact with old friends. We all love Alcoholics Anonymous and want it to be here for when our children and relatives need it. As we let go of our current positions and go to learn our new position it is well worth the journey. I have experienced a lot of learning in the last two years and now it is time for new A.A.s to take over.

In Service Diane

DISTRICT 8 – HEATHER L

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 December 8th, hosted by Lake Vermillion 12X12.

All of our chairs and Alternate chairs are filled for the next rotation. This is very exciting for us. Hopefully we can get some more people involved to have actual committees.

It has been a pleasure to serve district 8 and I am looking forward to serving in some form next rotation. I attended the Fall Assembly, and it was very nice and informative. I have really enjoyed learning more about this side of $\Delta\Delta$

I want to thank all of our district chairs, alternate chairs, Alternate DCM, Treasurer, Secretary, and GSRs for their continued support and service to the district. I couldn't have done this rotation without their support and knowledge.

Thank you for letting me serve

12:05 lunch break. Reconvened at 12:45

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Sound Tech Equipment

A list of needed sound equipment for Area use was handed out. The total cost for the equipment was \$451.07 to \$616.84, depending on the number of microphones, stands, etc. This is informational only, for discussion.

February ACM

Pat M. made a motion <u>"To move the February Area Committee Meeting back to the last Sunday of February."</u> Diane R. seconded the motion. Discussion

Reasons to move the ACM back to the last Sunday are: Delegate has time to get printed copies of agenda items to people who want them, and the weather for traveling at the beginning of February.

Northern Light editor explained that 2023's timeline for putting the Northern Light together was very tight. Secretary had two days to get all the minutes done after the ACM, and the NL editor had two days to get the NL to the printer. Also, the printer's timeline for getting the issue printed changed from two weeks to three weeks, which was barely enough time to get it mailed out before the Spring Assembly.

At the Fall Assembly, we used 2/3 as the threshold to pass the reconsidering of the motion when we actually only needed 51% for it to pass. The reconsider would have passed if we used 51%, so we brought up a new motion at this time.

The end of January is the coldest, windiest time of the year. Bad for traveling.

Having the people who want paper copies of the agenda items print out their own copies might not work for some people if there are no places to print them near to them. Sending them in the mail would be expensive. We need to consider these things when making our decision.

Delegate Steve L. was previously the NL editor. He stated that he knows how hard it is to get the NL put together and mailed out during the March/April crunch time. The budget is also in that issue of the NL, and it takes some manipulation to get the NL together with all that information. Last year he had only three people ask for paper copies of the agenda items.

People could print out the items themselves and then submit a bill to the Area.

Weather is not predictable and late January and early February are not always the coldest times of the year. Remember how cold it was last December? We can't use weather as a reason to move the ACM back to the last Sunday.

The groups voted on this at the Assembly. We shouldn't undo something they voted on at our very next meeting. If we think this is a big enough deal, we should talk about it at the Spring Assembly.

Pat M. meant to table the motion to the December ACM, not to the Assembly.

Motion "To move the February Area Committee Meeting back to the last Sunday of February" was voted on. There were 6 in favor, the rest of the voting members voted against the motion. Motion FAILED.

Minority opinion:

What is the procedure now that we have changed the timing?

Need to update the Action Book, the Trusted Servant guidelines.

The Action Book is not a rule book. It only shows what the Area did in the past for reference.

The method of transmission of the agenda items has changed over the years.

t one time, everyone got hard copies. Then they were put on CDs, then thumb drives. Now they are on area35.org.

The cost to print the three requested hard copies last year was over \$100. There were 1,700-some pages.

The Delegate will update the guidelines regarding the agenda items.

We can deal with the procedure as we go. Include it in your budget. This can be discussed more at the February ACM if desired.

Please submit budgets with notes on what is included in the budget. Budgets will be included in the Northern Light before we approve them. Encourage DCMs and GSRs to ask questions about the budgets. We can address any questions before the budgets are approved.

West Central Regional AA Service Conference

Northern Light editor Heidi B. presented rough estimates for costs for sending people to the WCRAASC in Minot, ND. The estimates were for whether people shared rooms or if they did not share rooms. Carpooling is encouraged. The officers and committee chairs were also encouraged to be prudent in their spending on meals

There will be a Zoom option available to attend the WCRAASC.

It is vital that we send as many people as possible to the event.

Nels P. made a motion "That the Area send the Area Officers and Area

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Committee Chairs to the WCRAASC service conference with expenses paid by the Area." Julie N. seconded.

Discussion:

Is there a limit to room expenses?

Spend prudently as per the Trusted Servant Guidelines.

Do we know what it cost the last time we sent everyone?

All we have is the total expenses for the first quarter of 2022. WCR expenses are included in that total, where we sent everyone to St. Louis Park. The expenses for that quarter were \$34,217. This year the expenses for the first quarter were \$28,491. Most of the Area's expenses occur in the first part of the year.

The checkbook balance is currently \$25,000.

Treasurer suggested that we do it the way we did this spring, saying we will send people if the funds are available.

Heather L. offered a friendly amendment, "If the finances are there." Nels P. accepted the friendly amendment, and Julie N. seconded.

Motion to be voted on: "That the Area send the Area Officers and Area Committee Chairs to the WCRAASC service conference with expenses paid by the Area, if the finances are there."

Vote – Motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Treasurer and Webmaster Laptops

Webmaster – We have a gap in computers. We know the webmaster and the treasurer each need one.

Kyle H. made a motion that <u>"We, as a group, approve up to \$500 each for the purchase of laptops for any Officers and Committee Chairs as needed."</u> Heather L. seconded.

Discussion:

Does that include Archives? YES

Let's see what we have and re-use, if possible.

Maybe everyone who needs one can get one, and those that have their own maybe don't need one.

Webmaster – We got approval from the Committee to buy laptops when needed for this rotation.

Not everyone needs a computer.

Can we get a replacement if one goes kaput?

Treasurer and Northern Light need computers. If one goes kaput, take one from someone else. We don't need to buy 16 computers.

The motion is to get laptops for any one of the Officers or Committee chairs who need one and spend prudently when purchasing.

Bob N. called the question. Heather L. seconded. Two-thirds vote is needed to call the question. Vote: Question is called.

Vote on the motion, "We, as a group, approve up to \$500 each for the purchase of laptops for any Officers and Committee Chairs as needed." Vote was four opposed, the rest in favor. Motion PASSED.

Minority opinion – none

Include the purchase of the needed laptops in your budgets.

Quickbooks

The Treasurer needs Quickbooks in order to carry out her duties. The cost for the desktop version of the software is \$84.

Diane R. made a motion to "Buy the desktop version of Quickbooks for the Treasurer." Heather L. seconded.

Vote: Motion PASSED unanimously.

Incoming Area Chair present 2024-2025 Area Committee for Approval

Incoming Area Chair Vicky R. presented the slate of Committee Chairs:

Archivist – Marc N
Archives – Cathy R
Cooperation with the Professional Community Corrections – Mark R
Grapevine – Terry A
Group Records –
Literature – Mike U
Northern Light – Jennifer T
Public Information – Randy A
Treatment – Kyle H
Sound Tech – Aaron A
Webmaster – Terry P
Financial Oversight – Scott A

Christine G. made a "Motion to accept the incoming Area Chair's slate of Area Action Committee Chairs." Jim R. seconded. Motion PASSED unanimously.

Selection of DCMs for committees: Archivist – 4 and 18 CPC – 6 and 9 Corrections – 12 and 3 Grapevine – 13 and 16 Group Records – 2 and 11 Literature – 8 and 15 PI – 21 and 1 Treatment – 14 and 5 Financial Oversight – 7

Budgets

Budgets for 2024 due to Area Chair by December 20th. Please put a note at the bottom of your budget if you are receiving a new computer.

Calendar of Events was read.

Motion to adjourn – Jim R. made a motion to adjourn, Heather L. seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m. Closed with the Responsibility Statement.

Respectfully submitted, Sally L.

APRII 1958

AA Thought for the Day

BY: CHIT-CHAT

A BETTER WAY THAN JUDGING a man is to look for all the good you can find in him. If you look hard enough and long enough, you ought to be able to find some good somewhere in every man. In AA I learned that my job was to try to bring out the good, not to criticize the bad. Every alcoholic is used to being judged and criticized. That has never helped him to get sober. In AA we tell him he can change. We try to bring out the best in him. We encourage his good points and ignore his bad points as much as possible. Men are not converted by criticism.

"Nearly all of us, when we think about it, agree that we are a long, long way from being anywhere near grown up, from almost any point of view. We can clearly see that our job as individuals and as a Fellowship is to keep right on growing by the constant use of our Twelve Steps."

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AREA OFFICER & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS

DELEGATE - STEVE L

Howdy Everyone,

This is my last report, so I'll make it as short as possible. I was able to make it to Dist.1 Fertile, to give them a post-General Service Conference Report and to fill them in a little bit about what's been happening in Area 35. Here are some highlights from the December WCR Delegates' meeting:

The Board Inventory is on track. It is scheduled for the Friday before the January 2024 Board Weekend. One nice thing about the January Board weekend is that the Delegate Conference Chairs will be attending two days (Saturday and Sunday) with the corresponding Trustees' committee.

I asked if the dust jackets on AA Comes of Age, As Bill Sees It, etc. will be removed to save money like the Twelve and Twelve and the Big Book Jackets were. Kerry M., our WCR point of contact, stated that there has been strong pushback on the removal of the 12x12 and BB dust jackets. If they can find the paper materials at a reasonable cost, they will continue with the current dust jackets. Kerry will check with AAWS on who makes those decisions.

Meg asked if it was possible to get deeper financial reporting, considering the recent letter from the GSO Manager. She also asked what the plans to mitigate the shortfalls in addition to fellowship contributions were. Kerry will report what she hears in January when she gives her next report. Rachel M., Area 52 N. Dakota Delegate and a member of the Finance Committee, responded to Meg's question. She stated that Kevin said questions have come up regarding mitigating the financial shortfalls. Kevin (GSB Treasurer) said they would have more of a path forward after the January Board Weekend. The AAWS Board meets every single week to go over finances. Committees are already cutting budgets significantly. ** Get the word out that they are meeting weekly to go over finances **. They are doing their best to hold the line.

Here is some updated news about the upcoming 2024 WCRAASC being held in Minot N. Dakota. Rachel M. stated there were 22 attendees registered so far. Rachel will be checking with the Area 52 PI CPC to see if they would like to do a CPC luncheon prior to the start of the WCRAASC with Kerry presenting.

The presentation topics for the WCRAASC are:

Safety Throughout the Structure in our Fellowship. Nick Area 41

1728 Sponsorship (12x12x12 – Steps, Traditions, Concepts all 3 Legacies) Diane Area 35

Overcoming the Barriers to Participation - Dave Area 63

"Connecting Home Groups to the Conference Throughout the Year to better inform the Groups Conscience". – Steve Area 76

Breakouts meetings are

Founders' Writing - When and how should we consider changing them. Rachel Area 52

Who is not in the Rooms – and how do we get them here? Julie Area 24

Vera (NTD AAWS) has offered to host a breakout writing workshop on "So You Think You're Different" for a pamphlet update project. - Kacie Area 40 to help

Online Groups Participation in the Service Structure – Meg Area $36\,$

We were informed at the WCR Delegates' meeting on what GSC committees the new 74 Delegates will be serving on. I'll let Diane inform us on what her committee assignment is.

It has been a great pleasure serving Area 35. We have an awesome group of Trusted Servants to lead us for the next two years.

Steven L Signing off P72 Outgoing Delegate

DELEGATE- DIANE R

Thank you for trusting and allowing me to serve as the Area 35 Northern MN Delegate for 2024-2025. I look forward to meeting with many of you, listen to your voices, and carry the collective conscience of Area 35 to the General Service Conference (GSC) in April. We have a lot of work to do before then.

I have been assigned to the GSC Grapevine Committee. So far, I have received from Conference Committee on the Grapevine: History and Highlights of Actions; a list of committee assignments for all delegates; a welcome letter. To date we have three items on the committee's agenda: Review AA Grapevine Workbook; Consider the list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2025 or after; Discuss the cost effectiveness of continuing to print

LaVina. The nine delegates on the committee are on a group chat called What's App.

The GSC Agenda Items will be available in mid-February on Area35.org. They will be password protected and can be downloaded on your computer or tablet. If a district would prefer a printed copy, feel free to reach out, and I will assist you in obtaining one. Detailed discussion on the Agenda Items will take place at the West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference (WCRAASC) in Minot ND, from March 1-3, 2024.

After the WXRAASC, I am available to visit your district to discuss these Agenda Items before the Spring Assembly. Please contact me to arrange a time and date. We will have an informed group conscience by knowing and understanding the Conference Agenda Items.

In Service

Diane R Incoming Delegate for Northern MN Area 35 Panel 74

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

CHAIR - CHRISTINE G

Greetings Area 35,

This report will cover both Area Chair and Alternate Delegate.

I have been working on uploading files to One Drive for the incoming Area Chair and Alternate Delegate. I have also been working with the incoming Area Chair on the transition of positions.

The January Workshop is all set for the incoming rotation at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud. Coffee has been ordered through Sterling Catering. The banner has been ordered and received for the upcoming area events.

I completed the budget for the area events for the 2024 year. I have made the appointment with Wells Fargo so we can get the incoming Area Treasurer on the account and myself taken off. This will take place on January 12th when all signers are in St. Cloud.

I will see you all at the January Workshop on Saturday and I will have the ice cream for our ice cream social.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Area 35 Chair. In Love and Service, Christine G Outgoing Area Chair

SECRETARY – SALLY L

Greetings, Area 35. I hope everyone survived Christmas!

Since the December ACM, I have gotten the unapproved minutes completed and sent out. They will be printed in the Northern Light.

I have finished working on the last set of minutes for this rotation, and I am nearly done with the Past Actions book. I will spend the next rotation serving District 8 as its Alt DCM. I am looking forward to doing that. I hope I can be helpful to the district. I will miss seeing everyone at the Area.

It has been an eventful rotation, and I am glad that I had the opportunity to serve as the Area Secretary. I have enjoyed the fellowship and the feeling of helping Alcoholics Anonymous in this position. I am grateful that I had the opportunity. Happy Holidays to everyone!

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Sally L.

TREASURER - VICKI R

No report given

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

WEBMASTER - KYLE H

No report given

NORTHERN LIGHT – JENNIFER T
Greetings! As I sit here working on my first issue of the Northern Light for my rotation as Editor, I'm in awe of those who have done it before me.
Thank you to Heidi for graciously driving to Grand Rapids and spending 5 hours showing me the ropes. Learning MS Publisher on a PC has been interesting! I am told that this position will enable me to have the pulse of AA during this rotation. Thank you for this opportunity to step out of my comfort zone and learn something new! I look forward to being uncomfortable and growing in 2024.

Thank you for allowing me to serve this Area.

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GROUP RECORDS – DENISE R

Greetings Area 35,

This last month of this rotation I have been able to register information for 8 new DCM's, also update information for 3 DCM's that will remain for the next 2 year rotation. I am waiting to hear from the remaining District's to hear of their new DCM's. Please send me your new DCM's information as soon as possible.

I have been able to register a couple new GSR's and list one new group, as well as my usual work of meeting changes and Northern Light mailing list. I did receive a total of 16 undeliverable Northern Light's this last mailing for a total of \$12.48.

I look forward to meeting our new Group Records Registrar, Rey, at the January Workshop where I will be able to hand off the computer for him to begin his work.

Thank you for allowing me to serve these last 2 years, it has been a very rewarding experience for me to serve Area 35 in this capacity.

In Service, Denise R

<u>LITERATURE – PAT M</u>

Hello area 35 Pat M your area 35 literature chair and I am an alcoholic.

I do believe I have gotten all my literature orders placed I have the literature in the hands of the new literature chair now, who is Mike B.

Some of the highlights of being a literature chair are visiting the districts and groups and talking about the literature and the importance of it meeting new people. Some people did not know the vast amount of literature we have, the pamphlets, all the information we have in pamphlets. One of my favorites is the, AA and Where it all Begins, everything a group needs to know is in that pamphlet.

I am getting ready for my new area position as your alternate delegate for area 35. I've been attending online meetings sitting back and listening, learning, always learning.

I would like to thank area 35 for allowing me to be your area 35 literature chair. It's been a privilege and an honor to work with so many great people.

Yours and service Pat M

PUBLIC INFORMATION – NELS P

No report given

TREATMENT – RICCO R

CPC - GREG C

No report given

ARCHIVIST - MARC N

Through the month of December I have thought about the Set Aside Prayer frequently.

"God, please set aside everything I think I know about You, everything I think I know about myself, everything I think I know about others, and everything I think I know about my own recovery, for a new experience with myself, a new experience with others, a new experience with my own recovery, and especially a new experience with You!"

As I digitize the old cassette tapes, I have the opportunity to listen to what it was like when originally recorded. Long timers and speakers often spoke of 12th step visits to people who desired change from habitual or excessive drinking. Some of these people did not know AAs were coming to visit, it was a spouse, child, or parent, maybe a doctor or clergy contacted AA. Often AA pamphlets were seen scattered about, hints pointing to a way out. It is interesting too the ambition of many people to be active in service to their fellows and their groups.

Most recently I have been digitizing long timer's tapes of interviews by Duane of Chokio. The recordings often devolve into conversations of who's who in the surrounding area, towns such as Chokio, Herman, Starbuck, Morris, Alexandria, Beardsley, Battle Lake, Ortonville, and more, lots of names and places, and the earliest AA recorded was new to AA in 1952. Duane explained what he does with the recordings: he listens and writes down the responses to interview questions then has another person type out his writings, after that he and his wife review while listening to the tape and make edits, then it gets retyped. At one point he said that these were sent to archives and the archivist made a presentation at WCRAASC that received much acclaim. I have not yet found these transcribed interviews, but the recordings are good listening. Most of these recordings are from the early 90's, it would be nice to get some recordings of more recent times, cell phones enable direct digital recording, try it, you might be impressed.

Then too there was a lot of effort extended by past archivists and helpers to donate items and to receive donations, to assemble the Grapevine magazines,

to build the bookcases, to mount posterboard items, to collect and protect fragile pictures, and to do preservation work on paper items. Physical items are the best archives, digital copies from the past have been lost, hopefully the digitizing that I'm doing will not suffer loss. Many of the pictures and posterboards have been damaged during transportation and display at events. I am making photo slide shows of these items, rather than cause further damage or loss. The real archive items will be preserved. I received an old flat screen tv/monitor that will be used to exhibit these items, this requires a lowend laptop to play the slide show. I am looking for more monitor/laptop setups to extend the exhibits.

In Humble Service, Archivist, Marc N

ARCHIVES - RENELL P

No report given

<u>GRAPEVINE – MIKE U</u>

No report given

CORRECTIONS - MARK R

I continue to work on CTCP requests (INSIDE) looking to find Temporary Contacts for Men & Women being released back into their communities. We need volunteers!

Monthly, I Chair the Statewide Corrections Committee meetings on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Our next meeting is January 3rd at 6:00pm.

I continue to be available to help our Area 35 District Corrections Chairs & DCM's. In helping District 13, we will be starting up a 2nd A.A. meeting at MCF-St Cloud prison for the men in their Treatment program! We hope to be starting sometime in January on Tuesday's at 6:30pm. We need volunteers!

We need CTCP Temporary Contacts. Please fill out a CTCP (OUTSIDE) form to volunteer for this awesome Service Work. Please consider volunteering. God Bless you all and Happy Holidays!

Humbly, yours in service,

Mark R

Statewide Corrections Committee (SWCC) Chair Report

On December 4th, Craig H (Area 36 Corrections Chair) sent a text stating he was no longer going to participate with the SWCC. He said he would continue to work with myself and Area 35 on the MCF Transition fairs, the CTCP, and the Annual Corrections Workshop.

On December 6th we had our monthly SWCC meeting, and we used the meeting to discuss the future of the SWCC without Area 36 Corrections Chair. After much discussion and a group conscience we (Area 35 & Area 36 members) thought it best for our Fellowship to continue with the SWCC and our partnership with Area 36 members still interested in meeting. The SWCC will continue to exist and bridge the gap between our Areas in serving our A.A. members in custody.

The SWCC meets on the 1st Wednesday of each Month. This is a joint collaboration of both Area 35 and Area 36 of the State of Minnesota.

Meeting ID: 212 769 216 350 Passcode: Y9JqVU

God Bless you all,

Mark R

Below, is a summary of this year's 2023 Annual SWCC Corrections Workshop. The purpose of this summary is to provide participants with a reminder of the key points of the Corrections Workshop and encourage them to apply the knowledge they gained while attending our Workshop. For those unable to attend, we would like to share our objectives for the workshop, its content, resources provided, and results, or feedback we received about this year's workshop. In addition, we would like to demonstrate the impact and benefits of the workshop and why we will continue to sponsor Corrections Workshops for years to come!

We would like to thank the 50 in attendance who came from all parts of Minnesota and to those 12 that attended online via TEAMS! Mark R. opened the workshop with the Serenity Prayer and then covered the usual housekeeping items including the two most important ones; where is the coffee, and where are the bathrooms. After covering the agenda, break times, and lunch, it was time for the introduction of our first speaker, Ken B from Omaha, Nebraska. To help us all get acquainted with Nebraska, Mark provided some interesting and fun facts about that large state.

- Nebraska, known for its beef cattle, where in 1917 the "Table Supply Meat Company" was founded. In 1966 they changed their name to "Omaha Steaks".
- April 18, 1945, during WWII a Japanese Balloon Bomb exploded over Dundee a suburb of Omaha at the intersection of 50th & Underwood. There was little damage, the incident was not reported until after the war. 93 miles NW of Omaha is the small town of Lehigh. For over 100 years, donut holes were outlawed! The law was repealed in 1997. In celebration, Mark

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handed Ken a box of a dozen Minnesotan donut holes. For some reason Ken's wife handed all of them out during lunch and did not want to return home with the evidence!

Ken spoke about his 41 years of sobriety, 40 of which he has had the honor of Carrying the Message into County Jails and Prisons in Nebraska. He shared several experiences of this A.A. Service work and what it has meant to the 1000's he has visited over 40 years. Ken shared experiences as the Nebraska Area 41 Corrections Chair, past Delegate for Area 14, Panel 48 (1998/199) also serving on the GSC Conference Committee for Corrections. Ken also shared his experience as past West Central Regional Trustee, where he served on the Grapevine Board and for two years he served on the Trustee's Correctional Facilities Committee. Ken showed us all how important this work is, how unselfish and dedicated he was in the journey! Ken is a firm believer on how important this work is to those less fortunate in custody who are still suffering. We are grateful for Ken speaking at this year's workshop and sharing his wealth of Corrections knowledge, experiences, but mostly how humbled and grateful he is to have been called into this Service Work!

Our A.A. Speaker this year was James N from Area 36. James has been involved in Corrections Service work at the Group, District, and Area levels in Area 36. His story was an amazing one. His alcohol and drug addictions led him to be incarcerated for several years - 13 felonies will do that. James remembers the guards telling him that his mom would be out crying in her car before she would come in for her routine Prison visits to see him and afterwards. There was not a dry eye in the workshop when James spoke of his mother and the hopelessness he felt then. At a time when his life was full of hopelessness and despair, James was introduced to A.A. in prison. It did not take right away but he gave it a chance. James worked it while he was in custody and began to feel hope and that there was something much more than himself. James signed up for the Corrections Temporary Contact Program, and upon his release, he immersed himself into the Fellowship of A.A.. James has been involved in taking A.A. meetings into County Jails and State Prisons ever since. He has served as a District Corrections Chair, Area Corrections Chair, and helped with the CTCP program in Area 36. Yes, A.A. in prison saved his life and James is so grateful to give away to those less fortunate what was given to him!

David Kieke was our third and final speaker at the workshop. David spoke of his many years working in various positions in Minnesota Corrections at the County level. After several years of being an Assistant Program Coordinator for Benton County Jail, his mentor retired and David took over, continuing the caring and dedicated work that had proceeded him. David shared his passion for helping men and women change their lives for the better while in custody at Benton County. Several attendees mentioned how informative David's presentation was and some actually felt much more comfortable in taking meetings into County Jails! It was very important to see from David's perspective, how important our work is for the men and women in custody, that we bring experience, strength, and hope to those less fortunate in a way no others can do.

We completed the workshop with a Panel of A.A. members with experience in Corrections work in County Jails, State Prisons, Transition Fairs, and the Corrections Temporary Contact Program. Laura, Kelly, and Craig shared their experience and then fielded an awesome session of Q&A. Most everyone, if not everyone, complimented how good the Corrections Workshop was for them and all seemed to come away with a better understanding of Corrections in A.A. as well as a better comfort level to get involved! Below are some of the key comments from the evaluations. Trying not to be repetitive, some of the comments are a summary of several if not all attendees.

COMMENTS:

- The Event Center was wonderful. A fantastic place for the Workshop! We should hold our Area Assembly's at the Event Center, what a great place. The venue was very good. The Event Center and the audio equipment were great. Great place for the Workshop, the staff were very helpful. The Event Center was good, very clean. Return here in 2024.
- Food was good. Free coffee! Lunch was fantastic. Lunch was great. Lunch was delicious! Excellent food and quality. Lunch was very good. Tasty food. The food was great. Lunch was wonderful.
- All the speakers were good. The County jail coordinator was really good, great information. Great information received from the speakers. Benton County speaker was very good! A.A. and Professional speakers were very helpful. The information received from Benton County coordinator was very insightful! Very insightful and to hear what the Jail Program directors are looking for!
- The workshop was great, hope these continue.
- Provide feedback information to the Pigeon in Area 36 about the workshop and numbers in attendance online.
- Important hearing others involved share their experiences!
- My 1st workshop, it was an enormous help! Great event.
- This helped me to be more comfortable now to present at meetings.
- The workshop fulfilled all my goals give yourselves 10 STARS!
- The workshop helped me understand that people in custody are part of us.
- Help me with a better perspective of time on the INSIDE.
- The workshop was great. Answered questions I did not realize I had!

- The workshop was good, obtained valuable information.
- The workshop was valuable learned how helpful our work is and what is needed to bring A.A. meetings inside.

The workshop helped! Good information, learned why this work is important

SUGGESTIONS:

- Get a Prison Warden in to be a Speaker.
- No suggestions!
- Maybe add some procedural things on starting to go to jail meetings.
- Suggest more information about the use of Tablets. CTCP training/education for newcomers who are interested.
- Add local County jail or Prison application paperwork make available for anyone interested in applying.
- Maye more information on the difference between County Jails and State Prisons. Do's and Don'ts for each type of facility.
- Have an Ask it Basket!
- Add a Panel of Professionals

OUT OF THAT VAST WELTER OF EXPERIENCE IN OUR ADOLESCENCE IT BEGAN TO BE EVIDENT THAT WE WERE GOING TO TAKE VERY DIFFERENT ATTITUDES TOWARDS MANY THINGS THAN OUR FELLOW AMERICANS BELIEVED. WE WERE DEEPLY CONVINCED FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THE SURVIVAL OF THE WHOLE WAS FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE SURVIVAL OF ANY INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS. THIS WAS A THING FAR BIGGER THAN ANY ONE OF US. WE BEGAN TO SUSPECT THAT ONCE A MASS OF ALCOHOLICS WERE ADHERING EVEN HALFWAY TO THE TWELVE STEPS, THAT GOD COULD SPEAK IN THEIR GROUP CONSCIENCE AND UP OUT OF THAT GROUP CONSCIENCE COULD COME A WISDOM GREATER THAN ANY INSPIRED LEADERSHIP.

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		20				: Delegat	e					
	Service Wrkshop Budget	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	WC Reg. Conf. Budget	Spring Assy. Budget	June <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Aug. <i>Mtg</i> . Budget	GSC Duties Budget	Fall Assy. Budget	Dec. Mtg. Budget	Zonal Forum Budget	Dist Travel Budget	Total Budget
Meals	70.00	10.00	120.00	70.00	10.00	10.00		70.00	10.00	65.00	150.00	\$ 585.00
Travel	31.00	14.00	82.00	38.00	14.00	14.00	24.00	33.00	14.00	200.00	1,500.00	\$ 1,964.00
Lodging	145.00		200.00	110.00			2,200.00	177.00		200.00	300.00	\$ 3,332.00
Subscript												\$ -
Supplies		50.00		50.00								\$ 100.00
Printing	15.00	600.00		200.00	200.00		300.00					\$ 1,315.00
												\$ -
Other	15.00		25.00				600.00					\$ 640.00
Budgeted	276.00	674.00	427.00	468.00	224.00	24.00	3,124.00	280.00	24.00	465.00	1,950.00	7,936.00

		20	024 Budge	et	Position	n: Alteri	nate Deleg	ate			
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i> Budget		WC Reg. <i>Conf.</i> Budget	Spring <i>Assy.</i> Budget	June <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Misc Budget	Fall <i>Assy.</i> Budget	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Zonal <i>Forum</i> Budget	Total Budget
Meals	45.00	10.00	135.00	100.00	10.00	10.00		100.00	10.00	75.00	\$ 495.00
Travel		28.00	65.00	45.00	28.00	28.00		22.00	28.00	75.00	\$ 319.00
Lodging				100.00	125.00		177.00				\$ 402.00
Subscript											\$ -
Supplies											\$ -
Printing		5.00			5.00	5.00	1,250.00		5.00		\$ 1,270.00
											\$ -
Other	15.00		25.00								\$ 40.00
Budgeted	60.00	43.00	225.00	245.00	168.00	43.00	1,427.00	122.00	43.00	150.00	2,526.00

		2	024 Budg	et	Position:	Chair						
	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Aug.	Misc	Fall	Dec.	Zonal	Dist	
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.		Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Travel	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	40.00	10.00	80.00	80.00	10.00	10.00		60.00	10.00	50.00	60.00	\$ 410.00
Travel	20.00	15.00	95.00	50.00	15.00	15.00		35.00	15.00	100.00	100.00	\$ 460.00
Lodging	330.00		250.00	220.00				354.00				\$1,154.00
Phone												\$ -
Supplies												\$ -
Printing	225.00			225.00				300.00				\$ 750.00
Zoom/Software												\$ -
Other	115.00		25.00				200.00		100.00			\$ 440.00
Budgeted	730.00	25.00	450.00	575.00	25.00	25.00	200.00	749.00	125.00	150.00	160.00	3,214.00

		20	24 Budg	et	Positio	n: Secr	etary					
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i> Budget	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	WC Reg. <i>Conf.</i> Budget	Spring <i>Assy.</i> Budget	June <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Misc Budget	Fall <i>Assy.</i> Budget	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Zonal <i>Forum</i> Budget		Total Budget
Meals	45.00	10.00	135.00	100.00	10.00	10.00		100.00	10.00	75.00	\$	495.00
Travel		28.00	65.00	45.00	28.00	28.00		22.00	28.00	75.00	\$	319.00
Lodging			100.00	125.00				177.00			\$	402.00
Subscript											\$	-
Supplies		5.00			5.00	5.00	1,250.00		5.00		\$	1,270.00
Printing											\$	-
											\$	-
Other	15.00		25.00								\$	40.00
Budgeted	60.00	43.00	325.00	270.00	43.00	43.00	1,250.00	299.00	43.00	150.00	2	,526.00

		20	24 Budg	et	Positio	n: Trea	surer					
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i> Budget	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	WC Reg. <i>Conf.</i> Budget	Spring <i>Assy.</i> Budget	June <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Misc Budget	Fall <i>Assy.</i> Budget	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Zonal <i>Forum</i> Budget	Dist <i>Travel</i> Budget	Total Budget
Meals	90.00	10.00	135.00	90.00	10.00	10.00		90.00	10.00	100.00	100.00	\$ 645.00
Travel	38.00	27.00	74.00	39.00	27.00	27.00		39.00	27.00	100.00	100.00	\$ 498.00
Lodging	145.00		100.00	110.00				177.00				\$ 532.00
Postage							240.00					\$ 240.00
Supplies							400.00					\$ 400.00
Printing	10.00	50.00		75.00	50.00	50.00	600.00	75.00	50.00	20.00	20.00	\$ 1,000.00
												\$ -
Other	15.00		25.00				40.00					\$ 80.00
Budgeted	298.00	87.00	334.00	314.00	87.00	87.00	1,280.00	381.00	87.00	220.00	220.00	3,395.00

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				Positio	n: Arch							
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i> Budget	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Spring <i>Assy.</i> Budget	June <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Misc Budget	Fall <i>Assy.</i> Budget	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	NAAAW	Zonal <i>Forum</i> Budget	Dist <i>Travel</i> Budget	Total Budget
Meals	60.00	10.00	60.00	10.00	10.00		60.00	10.00	240.00	80.00	160.00	\$ 700.00
Travel	14.00	24.00	76.00	24.00	24.00	144.00	50.00	24.00	80.00	75.00	150.00	\$ 685.00
Lodging	145.00		220.00				354.00		720.00			\$ 1,439.00
Subscript												\$ -
Supplies						275.00						\$ 275.00
Printing												\$ -
acility Rent					·	6,500.00						\$ 6,500.00
Other	15.00								120.00			\$ 135.00
Budgeted	234.00	34.00	356.00	34.00	34.00	6,919.00	464.00	34.00	1,160.00	155.00	310.00	9,734.00

	20	024 Budg	et	Positio	n: Arch	ives Chai	r		
	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	WC Reg. <i>Conf.</i> Budget	Spring <i>Assy.</i> Budget	June <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Misc Budget	Fall <i>Assy.</i> Budget	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Total Budget
Meals	10.00	135.00	115.00	10.00	10.00	30.00	115.00	10.00	\$ 435.00
Travel	53.00	62.40	73.00	53.00	53.00	40.00	85.00	53.00	\$ 472.40
Lodging		422.40	250.00			75.00	357.00		\$1,104.40
Subscript									\$ -
Supplies						100.00			\$ 100.00
Printing									\$ -
									\$ -
Other		25.00							\$ 25.00
Budgeted	63.00	644.80	438.00	63.00	63.00	245.00	557.00	63.00	2,136.80

		Position:					
	Spring	June	Aug.	Fall	Dec.	Dist	
	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	Assy.	Mtg.	Travel	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	95.00	10.00	10.00	95.00	10.00	80.00	\$ 300.00
Travel	22.50	7.50	7.50	25.00	7.50	200.00	\$ 270.00
Lodging	220.00			354.00			\$ 574.00
Subscript		300.00					\$ 300.00
Supplies		100.00					\$ 100.00
Printing							\$ -
egistration							\$ -
Other							\$ -
Budgeted	337.50	<i>l</i> .17.50	17.50	474.00	17.50	280.00	1.502.00

		. 3			Positio	n: Area	35 Corr	ections	Chair				
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i>		WC Reg.	Spring Assy.	June ACM	Aug. ACM	Misc	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	ACM	Correction:	MCF Area 35 ansition Fa	Travel	Total
	Budget		Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	20.00	10.00	90.00	60.00	10.00	10.00	100.00	90.00	10.00				\$ 400.00
Travel	10.00	27.82	143.96	75.87	27.82	27.82	100.00	27.25	27.82		100.00	140.00	\$ 708.36
Lodging			110.26	110.00			100.00	177.00				100.00	\$ 597.26
Subscript													\$ -
Supplies							120.00						\$ 120.00
Printing													\$ -
MCF-ST Cloud											270.00		\$ 270.00
MCF-Moose Lake											270.00		\$ 270.00
MCF-Willow River											270.00		\$ 270.00
MCF-Rush City											270.00		\$ 270.00
orrections Workshop										800.00			\$ 800.00
Other	15.00		25.00										\$ 40.00
Budgeted	45.00	37.82	369.22	245.87	37.82	37.82	420.00	294.25	37.82	800.00	1,180.00	240.00	3,745.62

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		20	24 Budg	et	Positio	n: Gro	up R	ecord	ls						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i> Budget	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	WC Reg. <i>Conf.</i> Budget	Spring <i>Assy.</i> Budget	June <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i> Budge	As	all ssy. dget 1	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Zon <i>Foru</i> Budg	m	Dis <i>Tra</i> Bud	vel		l'otal udget
Meals	60.00	10.00	100.00	60.00	10.00	10.00		0.00	10.00	40.			.00	\$	420.00
Travel	28.00	50.00	160.00	75.00	50.00	50.00)	-	50.00	100.	.00	200	.00	\$	763.00
Lodging	165.00	-	200.00	110.00	-	-		-	-					\$	475.00
Subscript														\$	
Supplies										-				\$	_
Printing										-				\$	_
Other	15.00		25.00											\$	-
Budgeted	15.00 268.00	60.00	25.00 485.00	245.00	60.00	60.00	60	0.00	60.00	140.	00	260	00	╬	40.00 698.00
Duagetea	200.00									140.	00	200	.00	1,	790.00
	Corrigo	_	D24 Bud		_	ition:				Dog		Diet			
	Service Wrkshop		WC Reg.	Spring Assy.	g Jun		Aug. <i>Atg.</i>	Fa Ass		Dec. Mtg.		Dist Trave		т	otal
	Budget	Budget					ng. idget			Budge	. I	Budge			ıdget
Meals	DaaBee	10.00	DaaBoc	Daago			10.00		800	10.00		БааБ		\$	40.00
Travel	15.75	19.22	149.31	79.3			19.22	3	8.75	19.22	-	320.0	00		680.07
Lodging	145.00		200.00	220.0					4.00		\top	200.0	──┣	-	,119.00
Subscript	.,,										\top			\$	-
Supplies	700.00			700.0	00			70	0.00		\top		\neg		,100.00
Printing	,							<u> </u>					┪	\$	-
											\top			\$	-
Other	15.00		25.00								\top		┪	\$	40.00
Budgeted	875.75	29.22	374.31	999.3	8 29.	22 2	9.22	1,09	2.75	29.22	2	520.0	0	3,9	979.07
	"	-	2024 Bu	•		tion:	Nort	hern	Light		•		Ï		
	Service	Feb.	WC Reg	g. Spring	g Jun	e	Aug.	F	all	Dec		Dis	t		
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	_			Mtg.		ssy.	Mtg		Trav			otal
2/51-	Budget	Budget		_	_		udget		dget	Budg		Budg	et	-	udget
Meals	60.00	10.0	-			.00	10.00	_	60.00	10.		06		\$	290.00
Travel Lodging	54.00 145.00	30.0	0 96.00			.00	30.00	_	36.00	30.	00	96.	00	\$	426.00 632.00
Subscript	145.00		200.00	7 110.0	-			-	177.00				\dashv	\$	-
Supplies		400.0	0	400.0	0 400	00	400.00) /	00.00	400.	00				,400.00
Printing		415.0	_	415.0			415.00		415.00	415.				-	,490.00
		1 -3.5		7.5.0	 		, ,,		. ,	 -J.	-			\$	-
Other	15.00		25.00)										\$	40.00
Budgeted	274.00	855.0	0 411.00	989.0	0 855.	.00 8	355.00	1,08	88.00	855.	00	96.	00	6,	278.00
		20	24 Budg	get	Posit	ion: P	I Ch	air							
	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Au	g.	Fall		ec.		ist			
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.			Assy.		tg.		avel		To	
Maria	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	_		get	Budge		dget		dget	ć	Bud	
Meals	60.00	10.00	75.00	60.0			0.00	60.0		0.00		0.00	\$		355.00
Travel	60.00	35.00	120.00	60.00		35	.00	60.0		5.00	10	00.00	\$		540.00
Lodging	180.00		225.00	110.00	<i>y</i>			180.0	, ,				\$		695.00
Subscript	-												\$		
Supplies	-												\$		
Printing									_				\$		
Other	15.00		25.00	+						$-\parallel$			\$		- /0.00
Other	15.00	15.00	25.00	222.51	150	0 15	00	200.0	0 1	- <u> </u>	16	0.00	Ş		40.00
Budgeted	315.00	45.00	445.00	230.00	45.0	υ 45	.00	300.0	υ 4 <u>!</u>	5.00	10	0.00		1,0	530.00

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		20	24 Budg	et	Positio	n: Trea	tment				
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i> Budget	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	WC Reg. <i>Conf.</i> Budget	Spring <i>Assy.</i> Budget	June <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Misc Budget	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Zonal <i>Forum</i> Budget	Dist <i>Travel</i> Budget	Total Budget
Meals	60.00	10.00	120.00	80.00	10.00	10.00	40.00	10.00	30.00	30.00	\$ 400.00
Travel	25.00	42.00	140.00	63.00	42.00	42.00	60.00	42.00	85.00	85.00	\$ 626.00
Lodging	165.00		300.00	220.00			150.00				\$ 835.00
Subscript											\$ -
Supplies											\$ -
Printing							100.00				\$ 100.00
											\$ -
Other	15.00		25.00				20.00				\$ 60.00
Budgeted	265.00	52.00	585.00	363.00	52.00	52.00	370.00	52.00	115.00	115.00	2,021.00

		2024 I	Budget			Area Eve	nts			
	Service	Feb.	Spring	June	Aug.	State	Fall	Dec.	Zonal	
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	Fair	Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Booth	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	150.00									150.00
Travel	250.00									250.00
Lodging	350.00									350.00
Rent	2,435.00	100.00	3,500.00	100.00	100.00	700.00	1,000.00	100.00	100.00	8,135.00
Coffee	200.00		200.00				200.00			600.00
Printing	250.00		250.00				250.00		50.00	800.00
Postage										-
egistration	30.00						-			30.00
Budgeted	3,665.00	100.00	3,950.00	100.00	100.00	700.00	1,450.00	100.00	150.00	\$ 10,315.00

		20	24 Budg	get	Positio	n: Web	master						
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i> Budget	Mtg.	WC Reg. <i>Conf.</i> Budget	Assy.	Mtg.	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Misc Budget	Fall <i>Assy.</i> Budget	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget		Zonal <i>Forum</i> Budget	Dist <i>Travel</i> Budget	Total Budget
Meals	45.00	10.00		60.00	10.00	10.00		90.00	10.00			60.00	\$ 295.00
Travel	36.00	31.50		93.00	31.50	31.50		41.00	31.50			200.00	\$ 496.00
Lodging				220.00				354.00					\$ 574.00
Subscript													\$ -
Supplies													\$ -
Printing													\$ -
													\$ -
Other	15.00						1,000.00						\$ 1,015.00
Budgeted	96.00	41.50	-	373.00	41.50	41.50	1,000.00	485.00	41.50	-	-	260.00	\$ 2,380.00

		2024 Budget			Position: Grapevine							
	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Aug.	Misc	Fall	Dec.	Zonal	Dist	
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.		Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Travel	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	95.00	10.00	95.00	95.00	10.00	10.00		95.00	10.00		150.00	\$ 570.00
Travel	38.00	23.00	121.00	61.00	23.00	23.00		55.00	23.00		200.00	\$ 567.00
Lodging	290.00		200.00	220.00				354.00				\$ 1,064.00
Subscript												\$ -
Supplies												\$ -
Postage							110.00					\$ 110.00
Printing												\$ -
												\$ -
Other	15.00		25.00									\$ 40.00
Budgeted	438.00	33.00	441.00	376.00	33.00	33.00	110.00	504.00	33.00	_	350.00	2,351.00

		2024 I	2024 I Position: FOC				
	Service <i>Wrkshop</i> Budget	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	June <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Total Budget	
Meals	50.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	\$ 90.00	
Travel	_	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	\$ 92.00	
Lodging						\$ -	
Subscript						\$ -	
Supplies						\$ -	
Postage						\$ -	
Printing						\$ -	
						\$ -	
Other	15.00					\$ 15.00	
Budgeted	65.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	197.00	

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	Position: Audio Tech								
	Service	Feb.	Spring	June	Aug.	Misc	Fall	Dec.	
	Wrkshop		Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.		Assy.	Mtg.	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals									\$ -
Travel	24.50	21.00	65.00	21.00	21.00		29.20	21.00	\$ 202.70
Lodging									\$ -
Subscript									\$ -
Supplies						620.00			\$ 620.00
Printing									\$ -
									\$ -
Other	15.00								\$ 15.00
Budgeted	39.50	21.00	65.00	21.00	21.00	620.00	29.20	21.00	837.70

Area 35 2024 Budget

Positions	Budget
Delegate	7,936.00
Alt Delegate	2,526.00
Chair	3,214.00
Secretary	2,526.00
Treasurer	3,395.00
Archivist	9,734.00
Archives	2,136.80
Corrections	3,745.62
CPC	1,592.00
Grapevine	2,351.00
Group Records	1,698.00
Literature	3,979.07
Northern Light	6,278.00
PI	1,630.00
Treatment	2,021.00
Webmaster	\$ 2,380.00
Audio Tech	837.70
Events	\$ 10,315.00
FOC	197.00
Total Budget	68,492.19
Expected Revenu	50000
Projected Loss	(18,492.19)
	** avg projected revenue 2019-2023 is \$42,500
	Revenue 2023 \$68,355

HOW SHOULD WE TREAT A.A. FOUNDERS' WRITINGS

A.A.'s Co-Founder, Bill W., in his 1953 address to the General Service Conference, stated that he did not consider himself the author of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Big Book (*Our Great Responsibility*, p. 92). He also alluded to the fact that in the various A.A. literature published prior to his passing, he borrowed heavily from other sources, and that other A.A. members made significant contributions.

On the other hand, addressing the historical context of some of the writings of our Founders, many members in our Fellowship have expressed strong sentiment against any changes in the first 164 pages of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Big Book, as well as the Preface, the Forewords, The Doctor's Opinion, Doctor Bob's Nightmare, and the Appendices. In fact, as early as 1995 and most recently in 2022, Advisory Actions designed to protect the above-referenced contents have been passed by the General Service Conference.

In response to a Committee Consideration from the 73rd General Service Conference suggesting that trustees' Literature Committee seek input from the Fellowship (including but not limited to Area delegate feedback) regarding any possible future changes to literature written by A.A.'s Founders, the trustees' Literature committee agreed it would be beneficial to gather shared experience from the Fellowship regarding this topic.

We would like to hear from you – the top of the triangle! While we hope that the suggested questions will help to spark thoughtful sharing and discussion, please feel free to add questions that we may not have thought of that you feel may best inform the discussion. Most of all, we are grateful for and thank you for your participation.

In fellowship,

The trustees' Literature Committee (2023-2024)

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Do you think that A.A. Founders would object to or embrace revisions to their writings? If yes, why? If not, why?

Do you think the Founders' writings are effective in reaching new members? If not, what measures do you think can be taken to resolve this issue?

What reasons would you consider for changing our Founders' writings?

How do you feel about changing A.A. Founders' writings to replace outdated references?

What suggestions do you have for preserving the Founders' writings, along with keeping pace with our current A.A. Society and its future?

Should there be a special Conference process for approval of changes to our Founders' writings? (e.g., super, or qualified majority -75%, and/or 2-year consideration process.)

What additional ideas, thoughts or suggestions can you share about changing or not changing the Founders' writings?

Note: Please be as concise as possible in your responses to the ques-

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2024 Service Events

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

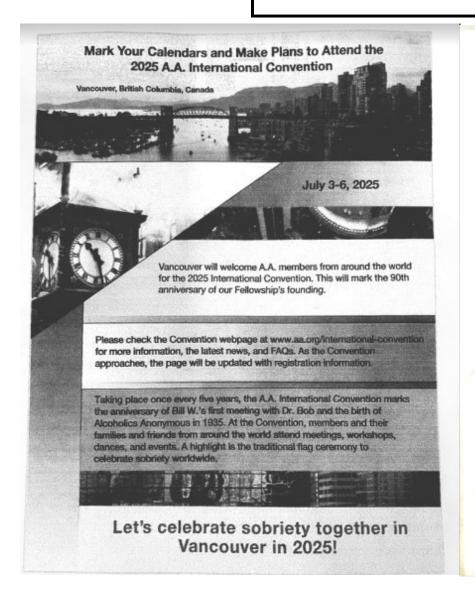
February 4: Area Committee Meeting Aitkin, MN

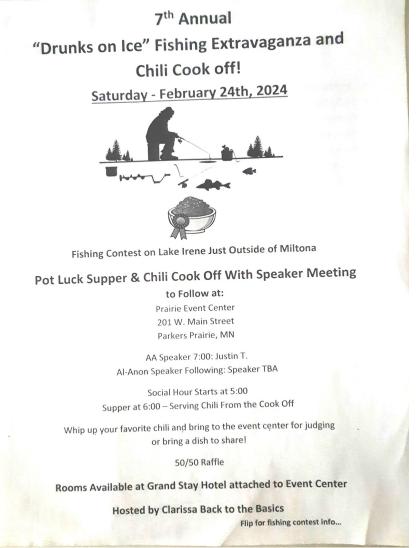
March 1 - 3: WC Regional Service Conference Minot, ND

April 6 - 7: Spring Assembly Crookston, MN

June 2: Area Committee Meeting Aitkin, MN

August 4: Area Committee Meeting Aitkin, MN





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Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

West Central Regional Service Conference HOSTED BY AREA 52 SCHEDULE COMING SOON Date: MARCH 1ST - MARCH 3RD CONFERENCE WEBSITE GRAND HOTEL Location: 701-852-3161 1505 N BROADWAY MINOT, ND 58703 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION Early Registration - \$25 HOTEL Registration after 2/1/24 REGISTRATION Increases- \$30 (GRAND HOTEL) Coffee pass- \$25 **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 CONNECTING WITH LOVE, UNITY, AND SERVICE TO REGISTER BY MAIL, SEND THIS PORTION WITH YOUR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO WEST CENTRAL REGION. MAIL BY 27/24 TO WCRAASC, PO BOX 1922 MINOT ND 58702 ATTEND IN-PERSON OR VIA ZOOM (LINK PROVIDED AFTER REGISTRATION) ASL SERVICE: SPANISH: CITY STATE: PHONE: OME GROUP:

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 <u>do not</u> 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 <u>Deadline Dates</u>

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.

1st Sunday in February

Agenda Items are distributed to Area 35 electronically or DCM Can request a hard copy from the Delegate.

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

Diane R. Area 35 Panel 74 Delegate delegate@area35.org (218) 929-7846

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Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

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 <u>northernlight@area35.org</u> 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, Jennifer T.

Directions for Inserting a Flier into the Northern Light

- 1. First & foremost, <u>contact the Northern Light Editor</u> at <u>northernlight@area35.org</u> 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.

Printing Costs Number Insertion Total of Copies 1 Sided 2 Sided Fee Cost 750 90 \$ 98/120 1000 90 120 30 | \$ 120/150

5. The cost for having a flier inserted into the Northern Light is \$30. Make Checks payable to NMAA and mail to:

NMAA 1102 E Camp St Ely, MN 55731

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE MOST CURRENT ADDRESS!!!

RELATED FLIER INSERTION INFORMATION

- Only Area 35 A.A. Members may submit a flier. Fliers must be for A.A. sponsored events only.
- Fliers needed—750 mailed only or 1000 for mailed and handouts.

Northern Light Deadlines for 2024 are as Follows:

- February 25, 2024: Flier will be included in the March/April Issue
- ◆ April 28, 2024 : Flier will be included in the May/June Issue
- June 30, 2024: Flier will be included in the July/August Issue
- September 1, 2024: Flier will be included in the September/October Issue
- October 7, 2024: Flier will be included in the November/December Issue

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Area 35 Event Flyer Guidelines

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

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

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

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)

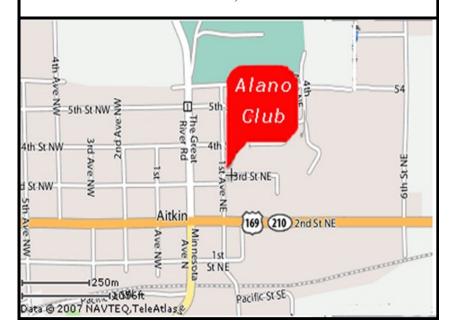
AREA 35 EVENTS INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

- 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



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OUR PAST DELEGATES

Panel 72	2022-2023		1996-199 <u>7</u>	Panel 22	1972-1973	
Steven L		Bill P (deceased)		Frank P. J (deceased)		
Panel 70	2020-2021		1994-1995	Panel 20 Clarence B	1970-1971	
Jim S		Bruce B		(deceased)		
Panel 68 Christine G	2018-2019	Panel 42 1 Greg G	1992-1993	Panel 18 Dave H	1968-1969	
Christine G		(deceased)		(deceased)		
Panel 66 Kelly D	2016-2017	Panel 40 1 Bob J	<u>1990-1991</u>	Panel 16 Arno A	<u> 1966-1967</u>	
Keny D		P00 1		(deceased)		
Panel 64 Michael "Jake" J	2014-2015	Panel 38 1 Scott J	1988-1989	Panel 14 Donald F	<u>1964-1965</u>	
11110111101		Scott 3		(deceased)	10.50 10.50	
Panel 62 Jim K	2012-2013	Panel 36 1 Louie H	<u> 1986-1987</u>	Panel 12 Donna T	1962-1963	
		Louie II		(deceased)	10/0 10/1	
Panel 60 Jon C	2010-2011	Panel 34 1 Bob P	<u>1984-1985</u>	Panel 10 Bob B (deceased)	<u> 1960-1961</u>	
Panel 58	2008-2009	(deceased)		Panel 8	1958-1959	
JoAnne M N	2007 2007	Tom L	1982-1983	Pearl N (deceased)	1750 1757	
Panel 56 Jerry S	2006-2007	(deceased)		Panel 6	<u> 1956-1957</u>	
Panel 54	2004-2005	Don M	<u> 1980-1981</u>	Waldo H (deceased)		
Charlie C	2004-2003	(deceased)	1050 1050	Panel 4	1954-1955	
Panel 52	2002-2003	Garfield (Duffy) S	<u>1978-1979</u>	Wendell H (deceased)		
Tim C		(deceased) Panel 26	1976-1977	Panel 2	1952-1953	
Panel 50 Tom A	2000-2001	Vern R (deceased)	17/ U-1 7//	Arthur R (deceased)		
1011171			<u>1974-1975</u>			
Panel 48 Susie A	1998-1999	(deceased)				

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

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

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

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

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AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETING Agenda Aitkin, MN February 4, 2024

9:00 A.M. Action Chair Committee Meetings (9:30	District 1 - Jenifer Z
a.m. Financial Oversight Committee)	District 13 – Peggy M.
10:30 A.M. Area Committee Meeting	District 21 – Jeri S
Call to Order Open with the Serenity Prayer	CORRECTIONS – Mark R
Recognize Past Delegates	Statewide Corrections – Corrections
Add to Agenda	District 9 -
Approve Minutes from December ACM	District 8 - Heather L
OFFICER REPORTS	12:00 P.M. Lunch
Delegate – Diane R	12:45 P.M. Reconvene
Alternate Delegate – Pat M	
Chair – Vicki R	OLD BUSINESS
Secretary – Denise R	
Treasurer – Heidi B	
	NEW BUSINESS:
COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS	CPC chair for approval
Financial Oversight Committee	
WEBMASTER – Terry P	
NORTHERN LIGHT – Jennifer T	
District 3 – Melvin S	
GROUP RECORDS – Open	
District 16 – Dave C	
LITERATURE – Mike U	
District 12 – Terry A	
District 5 – Jarrin V	
PUBLIC INFORMATION - Randy A	
District 2 –	
District 4 – James W	
TREATMENT – Kyle H	
District 6 – Julie N	
District 7 – Bob N	
CPC -	
District 18 – Scott S	
District 15 – Lisa M	
ARCHIVIST – Marc N	
ARCHIVES – Cathy R	
District 11 – Kathy M	
District 14 –	
GRAPEVINE – Terry A	

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

1102 E Camp St Ely, MN 55731