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Area 35

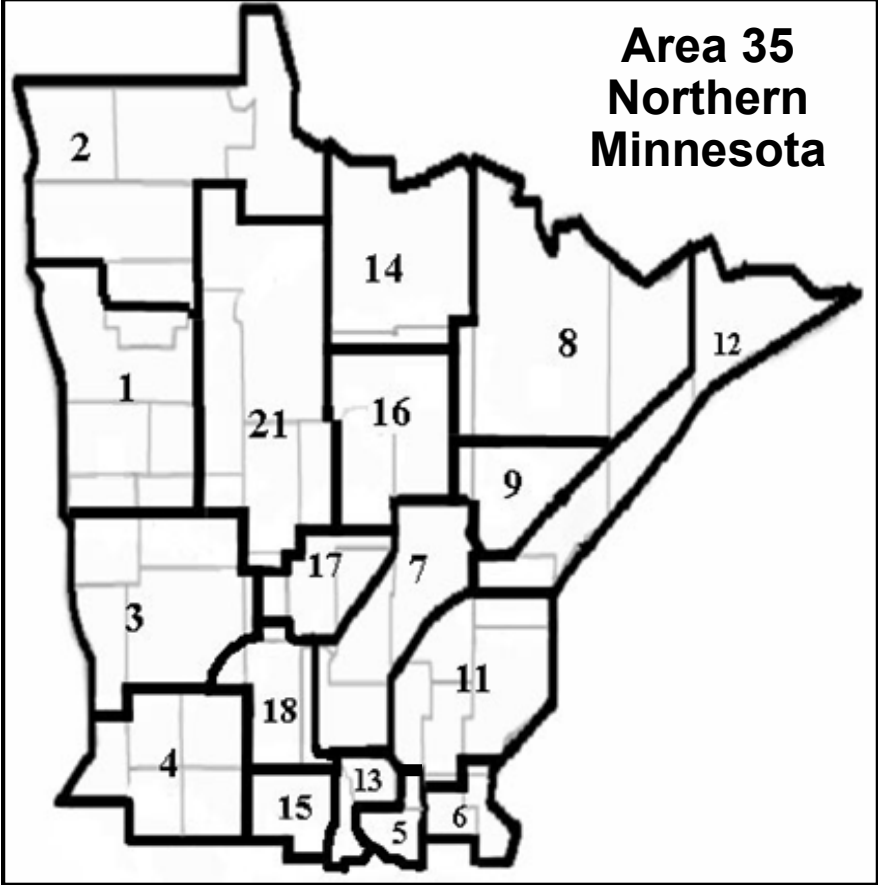
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Send articles and comments for publication to
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Volume XLII Issue 6 Nov/Dec 2024		NORTHERN LIGHT Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly		Created 1982 Page 2			
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TABLE							
<u>Regular Articles</u> Page 2 2024 - 2025 Area 35 Committee Page 3 District Map & Zone Breakdown Page 3 District Meeting Location Information Page 4-10 Area Committee Meeting Minutes Page 12-13 Northern Light Committee Reports Page 14-15 Area Events Page 16 Agenda Deadlines Page 16 Area Calendar Page 17 Northern Light Submission Guidelines Page 18 Area 35 Flier Guidelines Page 18 Inclement Weather Procedure Page 18 Acronyms Page 19 Past Delegates Page 20 Agenda			<u>Guest Views</u> Page 11 Service Submission <u>Edition Extras</u> Page 11 Literature Announcement				
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Zone I

- District 1** - Ada, Crookston, Erskine, Fertile, Fosston, Mahnomen, Naytahwaush, Red Lake Falls, Twin Valley, Waubun,
- District 2** - Badger, Baudette, Halma, Middle River, Roseau, Stephen, Thief River Falls, Warren, Warroad, Williams
- District 16** - Big Fork, Bowstring, Boy River, Cohasset, Deer River, Grand Rapids, Goodland, Hill City, Lawrence Lake*, Longville, Remer
- District 21** - Akeley, Bagley, Bemidji, Blackduck, Cass Lake, Debs, Menahga, Onigum, Park Rapids, Red Lake, Shevlin, Solway, Squaw Lake, Walker

Zone II

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

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

District Meeting Location Information

District 1
2nd Sunday of even months, 2:00 p.m.
Fertile Community Center
101 S Mill Street
Fertile, MN 56540

District 2
1st Sunday of odd months, 3:00 p.m.
Thief River Falls Alano Club
614 Davis Ave
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

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

District 4
3rd Saturday of month, 5:00 p.m.
Contact DCM for location (It Rotates)
Potluck at 6:30 p.m.
Round Robin at 7:00 p.m.

District 5
3rd Monday of month, 7 p.m.
(use side door that opens to parking lot)
Trinity Lutheran Church
111 N 6th Ave
Princeton, MN 55371

District 6
3rd Thursday of month, 7:00 p.m.
Spring Lake Lutheran Church
8440 Erickson Rd NE
North Branch, MN 55056

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

District 8
Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m.
General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Day and location rotate.
Contact DCM for info.

District 9
Last Sunday of month, 6:00 p.m.
Hibbing Alano Club
3725 1st Avenue
Hibbing, MN 55746

District 11
1st Tuesday of month, 7:00 p.m.
Peace Lutheran
2177 Hwy 18
Finlayson, MN 55735

District 12
3rd Thursday of month, 6:30 p.m.
1100 E Superior Street
Duluth, MN
Handicap Accessible

District 13
1st Monday of month, 7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
St. Cloud Alano Club
127 7th Ave NE
Saint Cloud, MN 56301

District 14
3rd Thursday of month, 6:30pm
Coffee Landing
444 3rd Street
International Falls, MN 56649

District 15
1st Monday of month, 7:00 p.m.
Albany Community Center
741 Lake Ave
Albany, MN 56307

District 16
1st Wednesday of month, 6:30 p.m.
United Methodist Church
1701 SE 5th Ave
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Handicap Accessible

District 17
Not currently active or unknown

District 18
1st Tuesday of month, 6:00 p.m.
Long Prairie Alano Club
21 2nd Ave
Long Prairie, MN 56347

District 21
2nd Monday of month, 7:00 p.m.
Bemidji Alano Club
3802 Greenleaf Ave NW
Bemidji, MN 56601

District 4 - Alexandria, Browns Valley, Carlos, Elbow Lake, Evansville, Glenwood, Herman, Kensington, Osakis, Morris

District 15 - Albany, Avon, Cold Spring, Holdingford, Lake Henry, Melrose, New London, Paynesville, Richmond, Sartell, St. Joseph, St. Stephen, Sauk Centre, Watkins

Zone III

District 5 - Becker, Big Lake, Elk River, Milaca, Otsego, Princeton, Zimmerman

District 6 - Braham, Bethel, Cambridge, Forest Lake, Harris, Isanti, North Branch, Rock Creek, Stacy, St. Francis, Rush City

District 7 - Aitkin, Baxter, Brainerd, Fort Ripley, Garrison, Ironton, Isle, Little Falls*, Malmo, McGregor*, Palisade, Pierz, Pillager*, Wahkon

District 11 - Finlayson*, Grasston, Henriette, Hinckley*, Lake Lena, Moose Lake*, Mora, Ogilvie, Pine City, Quamba, Sandstone, Willow River

District 13 - Kimball, Rice, St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids, Waite Park, Foley

District 17 - Backus, Cross Lake, Nisswa, Pequot Lakes, Pillager*, Pine River

District 18 - Browerville, Clarissa, Eagle Bend, Little Falls*, Long Prairie, Motley, Parkers Prairie, Staples, Verndale

Zone IV

District 8 - Alango, Aurora, Babbitt, Biwabik, Cook, Cotton, Ely, Eveleth, Gilbert, Hoyt Lakes, Mountain Iron, Nett Lake, Orr, Palo, Pike, Tower, Virginia,

District 9 - Chisholm, Floodwood, Hibbing, Keewatin, Kelly Lake, Lawrence Lake*, Nashwauk*, Zim

District 12 - Beaver Bay, Silver Bay, Barnum, Brimson, Brookston, Cloquet, Duluth, Esko, Finland, Fredenberg, Grand Marais, Grand Portage, Hermantown, Knife River, Lawrence Lake*, Lutsen, Mahtowa, Pike Lake, Proctor, Sawyer, Foxborro (Wisconsin), Side Lake, Superior (Wisconsin), Toivola, Two Harbors

District 14 - International Falls, Littlefork, Rainy River (Ontario,Canada)

Area 35 Fall Assembly Minutes
Alexandria, MN
October 4th-5th, 2024

Call to Order: Area Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 4th, 2024, and opened with the Serenity Prayer. There were 109 people in attendance.

Why We Need a Conference: Read by Cynthia GSR
Recognition of Past Delegates In Attendance: Jim K, Panel 62; Jake J, Panel 64; Jim S, Panel 70; Steve L, Panel 72; Area 36 – Scott A, Panels 57 and 59

Recognition of GSR's in Attendance: 43 GSR's in Attendance
Additions to Agenda: State Fair Booth Commitment, More discussion on Hybrid Area Committee Meeting and Assembly

Approval of Spring Assembly 2024 Minutes: Jess motioned to approve the minutes, Julie seconded. Motion carried.

-12 Concepts Panel (Concepts 1-6)- Led by Scott A
Concept 1 - Robing J., Concept 2 - Mark R., Concept 3 - Jess S., Concept 4 - Heidi B., Concept 5 - Denise R., Concept 6 - Marc N.

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – DIANE R
Hi Everyone,

I am Diane R, Alcoholic, serving as your Area 35 Delegate. It is a wonderful and exciting journey to serve as your Trusted Servant.

The West Central Regional Forum will be in Omaha. The Forum will be held from September 19-21, 2025, at the Hilton Downtown Omaha. The airport is five minutes from the hotel and there is plenty of parking if you are driving. There will be plenty of restaurants within walking distance.

The prudent reserve for the West Central Region was raised from \$9,000.00 to \$12,000.00. The host committee will continue to decide on a virtual option and the amount of the registration fee. There was a motion to reinstate 7th Tradition at the discretion of the host committee at the regional service conference to be open to attendees both virtually and live at the service. This is to make sure we are self-supporting.

Dates for the West Central Region A.A. Service Conference will be February 28 – March 2, 2025, in Casper Wyoming. Please save the date if you plan to attend. There will be a virtual option.

Printed 2024 Final Conference Reports are here. They are free at the Literature Table. They are also available online at AA.org.

Our General Service Conference Grapevine Committee will meet virtually in October to discuss Proposed Agenda Items submitted for 2025 General Service Conference.

In September, I attended three open A.A. meetings. We really do have a wonderful fellowship that love and cares for each other. I am also attending an online Concept meeting with other ladies from our area. Already, I have learned a lot.

I was asked about brochure that came from a retreat center trying to solicit business from us in that they put Alcoholics Anonymous on the brochure. In talking with others, this is an outside issue. A lot of groups have received them, and they just throw them away.

In Service, Diane

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – PAT M
Hello Area, 35

I've been attending the North American alternate delegates meetings I've been attending or Central regional delegate meeting with our delegate Diane. I had the opportunity and a pleasure to chair the fall assembly I filled in for our chair Vicky we had 106 attend of all assembly 43 GSR and 13 GSR and this was first Assembly ever I've been working on the Winter workshop I believe everything is in order we still have a lot of rooms left also working on the 2026 workshop .

I have asked someone to speak to us and I am waiting back from them. Working on nailing down a venue have a couple options yet I will be tending the corrections workshop here in November if anyone needs anything I want me to come and visit or just sit in on a meeting with them let me.

Yours in service, Pat M

CHAIR - VICKI R
Thank you to Pat for stepping in to chair. I wish I could be here to hear the concepts panel discussion along with the reports and business you conduct. I've had the pleasure of communicating with different members and continue to be proud of the work you each do. Thank you to Randy A for the work he did for staffing the state fair booth this year.

I worked with the Area Officers to prepare for the meeting.

SECRETARY – DENISE R
Greetings Area 35,

Since my last report I have prepared and distributed the minutes from the August Area Committee Meeting. I apologize, I overlooked my duty of sending the Area minutes to our West Central Regional Trustee, so I made sure to connect with Charlie our New Regional Trustee and sent him copies of all Area 35 minutes from this rotation so far. I look forward to meeting him in person at the January Workshop.

I prepared the flyer for 2025 Spring Assembly which will be held in St. Cloud at the Rivers' Edge Convention Center April 5th and 6th. Please grab a flyer for information on reserving your room.

I am still reviewing the Trusted Servant Guidelines in the Area Actions book - along with voting procedures. So far, I am not finding any one place that gives us specific information on who can vote at Area Committee Meetings, who can vote at Area Assemblies, even who can make motions and 2nd motions, who can put forth a nomination for Area Officers at our election Assembly. We seem to have confusion with that at every Area Meeting and it would be more effective to have a section in our Actions Book that provides that information.

I continue to participate in a Concepts study which has helped me prepare for the Concepts presentations we are having this weekend. I appreciate being asked to participate in these presentations as it gives me a chance to learn more and dig deeper into understanding our General Service Structure and how the Corporations operate. Thank you for allowing me to serve and continue growing.

Denise

TREASURER – HEIDI B

Hello Area, 35 –

Since the August ACM, I've been working on 2025 budgets and processing contributions. The 2025 budgets are being presented this weekend with 3 options to include West Central Regional Svc Conf and Forum options, which ranges from \$66,400 to \$74,923. When we are going through the budgets, please think of your own home group and what your group can reasonably expect to contribute to support the budget.

In 2023, 208 groups contributed to the Area for a total of \$52,000 in contributions. The 2024 approved budget was \$63,638. We have yet to hit our budgeted income for 2024 to support this budget. If the same 208 groups contribute to the Area this year, each one of those groups would need to send \$316 in 2025. That is \$26.37 a month. Does your home-group have the ability to send the Area \$26.37 each month of 2025 to support the budget? Is that a reasonable goal for your home-group?

Period 6 financials are on the table. We've received \$33,192.19 in group contributions this year from 200 groups. Our September contributions were down considerably, and we are below budgeted income for the year. Our estimated expenses through the end of 2024 are also below budget. Some of this is due to expenses that haven't been submitted for reimbursement. Fall Assembly expenses will most likely use up much of the profit we are currently making.

Our Period 6 area finances through 9/30/24:
Aug-Sept YTD
Income:
Contribution: \$7,288.16 \$33,192.19
Other 160.95 12,563.62
Total Income: \$7,449.11 \$45,755.81
Expenses:
Events 150.00 18,109.83
Period 6 3,087.67 12,694.02
Total Expense: \$3,237.67 \$30,803.85
Net Profit \$4,211.44 \$14,951.96

One last matter of business – I was recently informed that the Area Treasurer used to have a PO Box for the contributions, instead of their home address, as we've done over the past 3 rotations. And technically, this is in the Area 35 Statement of Financial Responsibility and is there to protect the Area. I've looked into costs for this, and it would be \$102 a year or \$51 ½ year. My rotation lasts through the end of 2025, so it could cost \$103. GSR's, would you like me to do this? This address would change with each new Treasurer. I don't want to confuse anyone with changing the contributions address mid-rotation. Please call me or email me with your thoughts. Vicki and I had plans to update the statement of financial responsibility as there are outdated practices within that are no longer feasible.

Thank you for allowing me to serve!
Heidi

OLD BUSINESS

Old Business began at 2:45pm Saturday
Voting Privileges for Archivist - Marc declined and rescinded the agenda item-

Voting Privileges for Sound Tec-

Discussion-
-Concerns that GSR's need majority of votes-
-Archivist and technology have votes at group level- Area Chairs and Officers vote at their home group also- -Sound tec spoke stating no real description in Actions Book on position, nothing mentioned of being a lifetime position- If a lifetime position then no they would not vote. Really requesting the body decides what services they want from Sound Tec position. provide a more defined role for the position-
-Tabled Motion from the Spring Assembly -

-Motion to Raise the Registration Fee for January Service Workshop to \$25.00-

Discussion-
- What is the cost? If we are constantly in the red, yes, we should raise the fee
- It shouldn't cost money to attend- aren't we supposed to be free? AA says no dues or fees-
- No dues or fees to be member of an AA Group or AA- but costs involved in service work, workshops etc. This is separate from being a member of AA- how else do we pay for workshops and Assemblies? - \$25 a year to help put workshops on that has been helpful, not a big deal. I would pay \$30 - it costs approximately \$8000 to hold event- if we are trying to pay for the workshop, then we have to keep raising admission fee -are we being coerced to pay- If we can't afford this event, we need to think about doing something else. - I wouldn't be in my service position if I had to pay for myself to come- Our groups are struggling to pay bills-It costs a lot of money for groups to send GSR's to events-maybe we can change venues, make it one day event centrally located- have to find a way to reduce costs- It should be free for us to learn about service work - This has been brought up at last few Assemblies- groups have final say we need to bring it back to our groups let them know the needs. Venues are limited and expensive
- Alcoholics are cheap- how much did we pay for drinks at the bar-willing to pay whatever it takes to stay sober-- We keep shooting down virtual option- if we had hybrid option we may not be having this conversation- we keep talking participation- why don't people show up?- If we could agree to use virtual options we have a way for people to show up that is inexpensive
- some members already foot their own bill- not everyone is covered \$8000 is ridiculous, making venue smaller use zoom- groups zoom in together having potlucks and fellowship- think outside the box-
Motion passes with substantial unanimity - minority opinion- none

-Proposed Revision to the Articles of Association-

Discussion-
-Please give description or clarification of Articles of Association- Not a legal or binding document- just made so the Area could get an EIN number for tax purposes for non-profit status- revisited the document last year and noticed discrepancies- The Ad hoc committee reviewed and made the changes, changes were sent to DCM's to pass on to GSR's. These are just guidelines as a nonprofit will not be sent to the Secretary of state again.
- Document has many proposed changes like changing disease to illness- members didn't want to sort through it- Our group made several changes- we want it to go back to groups and ask about each change- shouldn't vote on it as a whole but change by change-
- When Area 35 filed taxes we had to provide these to the accountant who used the names listed for our taxes as Area officers- these Area officers are old names no longer in Area 35 Service. Shouldn't we send the Articles to Secretary of State so to have correct information?
- We could resubmit them- if we did this every rotation, it would cost money- we can make this overly complicated we don't need to--
- faith is changed to spirituality and it should remain faith- the word power is changed, why is it necessary to change those? Article 3 changes definition of Assembly from membership of the Assembly to Voting membership? why? only change necessary is allowing the treasurer to have their own address and we need to change names of Officers at the end
- can we use the word Alcoholics Anonymous in our name? we are the Northern Minnesota Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous, is that a tradition break- talking with others some say yes, it is, others say no it isn't- If we use the name of Alcoholics Anonymous what keeps others from using the name ? -Isn't this the Trusted Servants responsibility? -The body decides-
Motion- Lauren GSR made motion to Leave the Articles of Association as they are-
Cathy R. Seconded motion-
Point of order do we use Substantial Unanimity or Simply Majority?
Simple Majority
Motion passed
Minority Opinion- Didn't we have to change this for tax purposes? No

-Intergroup Links on our Area Website-

-Last assembly we spoke pros and cons of having intergroup on Area 35 website. Con was by not putting Intergroup on Website are we not supporting AA as a whole? letter read from 2 years ago seemed personal we are to put principles above personalities- unsure if circumstances with that Intergroup are still the same- - it is written for all Intergroups it appears we have issue with one Intergroup- I believe Intergroups are a vital function to our Service Structure helping the still suffering alcoholic If it's just one Intergroup maybe we to take it case by case-- Clarification needed- Is there a motion on the table now to remove them? Not all Intergroups have been removed from our Website according to the past motion- At the last Assembly someone wanted to revisit, that is why we are discussing it again-
Motion to add all Intergroups back to Area 35 Website - Neil second the motion

Discussion-

-Making rash decisions on resentment and fear- we ask ourselves why we can't get people involved, why we don't have donations- How attractive is this? - Who is the audience Area 35 is to attract? Does a new alcoholic walking in the doors know to look up Area35.org- What is the purpose of our Area Website?- Webmaster stated purpose of website is communication disseminating to make Northern Minnesota visible-
-Move to table the Motion to get more information for my group to discuss this-
Dennis Seconded motion- Motion passed
Minority Opinion- At Spring Assembly we did pro/con more information is in the minutes from Spring Assembly- We should make the motion today
New GSR's should have read it in Spring Assembly Minutes-

-NEW BUSINESS

2025 Ara 35 Budget/&Options WCRAASC WCRAAF-

Vote on WCRAASC first - \$66,895. 57 option 1 Delegate and Alt Delegate Travel only to WCRAASC and WCRAAF- or \$75,422.82 option 3 is all Area Officers and Chairs that budgeted for it. What business gets conducted at WCRAASC? We go through all agenda items with members of all 8 Regions- There will be virtual Option for this-but not the Regional Forum- Option 2 is for Officers Only -
Motion by Neil to accept all Officers to attend WCRAASC for 2025 with Committee Chairs Attending Online - No Second-

-What's the benefit of having Officer Chairs and Committee Chairs attending
- No business is conducted - informational only- Each Delegate from 8 Regions presents their agenda items for discussion by members in all 8 regions. Alt Delegate needs to be ready to fill in for Delegate if needed. It is beneficial for Officers and Chairs to attend. They may be our next Delegate -need to be informed of past discussions - they help assist Delegates by answering questions passing on information in their own Districts and Groups- Total if Area Officers only traveled with Delegate and Alt Delegate add \$2,553.80
Area Officers budgeted to drive not fly- a very long drive
No rule that says who can attend- the question is who will be reimbursed financially to attend- who do groups want to pay to attend- What's the best use of money- spending time in Districts Community local AA- attending virtually is beneficial- better use of resources than traveling to Wyoming
Motion by Kenny K. to pass Option 1- Delegate and Alt Delegate due to continuing budget constraints -Dennis second motion

Discussion-

We talk about Zoom option- we host WCR in a couple years we should be ready to supply zoom for others if we are using Virtual option when others host-
Does this include Area paying Virtual fee for Officers and Chairs to attend?
Yes
Is Registration fee part of the budget in Option 1
Motion to Call the Question - Kyle -Motion passed
Motion Passed for Option 1
Motion by Jess S. to Pass Budget Option 1 for the WCRF Second by Dennis
Motion Passed
Motion by Kyle to Table Budget until Sunday - Second by Paul
Motion Passed
- Business Ends at 5:00pm-

Assembly Reconvened at 7:30pm

Concepts Presentation 6-12- Led by Scott Ahlgren
Concept 6 - Robin J., Concept 7 - Mark R., Concept 8 - Jess S., Concept 9 - Heidi B., Concept 10 - Denise R., Concept 11 - Marc N.

COMMITTEE CHAIR & DCM REPORTS

Financial Oversight Committee - Scott A

Financials are sent to Scott and Jess who review them separately and concur that everything looks good-

DISTRICT 7 – JESS S

Greetings from District 7

Our district meeting is held the third Thursday of each month, at First Congregational Church in Brainerd, 415 Juniper St. Brainerd, MN. In July our District held its annual potluck picnic at Lum Park in Brainerd. It was a beautiful sunny day with lots of great food and fellowship. I was able to make some connections with members of groups who had some questions about our district. I also met some AA members from other districts, who came to visit! We were so grateful for the company and the turnout that day. In August, Diane & Pat, our Area 35 Delegate & Alt Delegate came to visit us and give the conference report. We appreciated being briefed on how that conference went and hearing about the things Diane shared with us here in Area 35. We also participated in a “Walk for Recovery” in Brainerd in September. This entailed live music from the Teen Challenge Choir, free pizza and games and information/education booths from organizations w/in the community related to recovery. We just had a table with pamphlets and district schedules available. Lots of people stopped with questions or to share their sobriety time, it was wonderful to be there.

In the last few months, we’ve had a couple new GSRs join us, they are here with us this weekend. Our CPC/PI Chair has continued to print and distribute business cards with our hotline number and QR code to our District Meeting Schedule to local police stations and hospitals. Feedback on that continues to be positive. Our Grapevine/Literature Chair updated us on recent Grapevine updates and had to order some more pamphlets, which means they are mov-

ing into the hands of the still suffering alcoholic. Our Treatment Chair has been working with a couple of local treatment centers who have recently become willing to work with AA to get some meetings into their centers & also have AA members help with transporting treatment participants to outside AA meetings, to get them familiar with the recovery community. Our Web & Schedule Manager Chair continues to deserve recognition; every month at our district meetings, Tim has new information for me on new or existing groups. He has been working hard to make sure our schedule and website stay up to date. Our Corrections Chair has been working with a few different groups and the district, collaboratively, trying to get together a list of committed volunteers willing to bring AA meetings into the local corrections facilities. I do plan to be busy next month, attending both the Corrections workshop in Foley & a Service Workshop in District 13, I hope to see you there!

In Service, Jess S

WEBMASTER – TERRY P
Hello,

There are always plenty of regular webmaster duties going on that I will not detail. Generally adding, updating, fixing or removing items from the website. Made some headway with some broad access/rights issues that were challenging and appear to be mostly fixed. Held the second How-To session in September with 6 in attendance. This is most likely my fault due to scheduling during the first Vikings game, oops. We will continue to hold every other month in between regularly scheduled area events. My hope is this continues to get/stay smaller as we all learn, allowing this time to transition to more of a working session. Please join when you have issues/questions, whether you can attend the full time or not. Feel free to reach out between events with questions. It is harder to deal with problems at events and still take care of the business we are there to conduct. A possible issue with hosting for several of our district’s sites was brought to my attention. While I do not have anything to do with these sites, I have worked with the person who set up and hosts many of these sites and will be reaching out for some clarification and a timeline if he is actually not intending to continue hosting these sites. Please reach out if you have a site in your district that is facing this potential concern, so I do not miss anyone in communicating the outcome and next steps. Have begun looking at the possibility of migrating those sites to one of the hosting options the area uses in the event it becomes necessary.

Thanks, Terry Pitts

NORTHERN LIGHT – JENNIFER T
No Report on vacation
GROUP RECORDS – PHYLLIS K

Thank you so much for cooperating in keeping our groups updated and fresh. Of the groups removed from the Meeting Guide, over half have gotten their information back to me and are reactivated at Fellowship Connection (our database) and the Meeting Guide. Some groups have simply folded months or years ago-and are no longer meeting. We don’t want a newcomer to show up to a ghost meeting.

Speaking of which, I got this email on 9/29: “Day 1 sober after 10 years, I drove an hour for this 8pm meeting at (town) and the door says the meeting was at 6pm, not 8pm. F***** b***s*** they need to update that; I can't even catch a meeting now! 10 years I have been going to a locked Alano with an outdated meeting time. Absolutely bullshit.”

This meeting is marked INACTIVE at FC, and I missed removing it this summer when I removed meetings not registered at FC. I wrote him an apology and contacted the DCM. I called a contact for a different meeting at that club, and she is getting me a current list of the meetings there. I started thinking the guidelines are too strict and this was a good reminder to me of why they are the way they are. We don’t want people to show up for a meeting and it is not being there as published. Thanks for your help with this.

I received 4 help emails from my last report:

1. A newcomer asking for help to hook up with a specific meeting in Bemidji and I was able to refer to the contact of that group. The connection was made because that contact is current; and I am grateful. We were able to be there when a newcomer asked for help.
2. A person requesting a linguistic district for Area 35, and I referred them to our Area to address the topic.
3. And the last one was seeking a sponsor. I suggested if he told me the town/city he was in, I could give him a referral to someone he could talk to for help. He did not get back to me. The messages sent through the Meeting Guide are visible to both Area 35 and Area 36, so it is helpful to know the town/city where they send a message through the CONTACT button.
4. This morning: “I need help.”

Please spread the word: It only takes one person in your group willing to be responsible and give their name, address, email address, and phone number to keep your group connected to the whole through registration at Fellowship Connection (our database) and the Meeting Guide. It does not have to be a GSR or chairperson.

Thank you for your help in keeping our groups up to date, so we can help others.

We have processed these since my last report:
GSRs and Contact People: +14 and -1
The Meeting Guide: +1 and -3; and 13 updated to keep current
The Mailing List: +10 and -6

New Groups: 3
Returned Northern Lights: 8
Group Changes: 2 Name Changes and 3 Address Changes.
Thanks for your efforts in helping when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help!

Phyllis
DISTRICT 2 – KIM B
Greg gave verbal report-

DISTRICT 11 – KATHY
Give verbal report

LITERATURE – MIKE U
Hello everyone

We had 12 in attendance talked about what districts are doing to reach out to other groups to see what they may need for literature. Also looking into getting some into libraries since the last ACM, not much has happened and the sales of books are going very well.

Thank you for letting me serve, Mike U

DISTRICT 8 – JOHN J
Greetings Area 35:

This report will be short and sweet! District 8 meets monthly; our district meetings occur in the 1st full week of the month and rotate Monday through Friday with different groups volunteering to host. We are still looking for a Corrections Chair and Archives Chair. I attended 3 open speaker meetings within our district since our last ACM, with our current Delegate speaking at one of them. Although this item passed at our special virtual assembly, I did want to mention that District 8 supported PAI submitted by the Biwabik group. District 8 is currently working on hosting a PI/CPC luncheon scheduled for March 28th. Thanks to District 8 for allowing me to serve.

In Service, John J

DISTRICT 15 – FRED T
Hello All, My name is Fred, DCM District 15, we are meeting on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00pm at the Albany senior center. I have continued to visit groups in the district and hopefully get to all of them by the end of the year.

Sean from Sauk Centre has volunteered to be our Literature Chair. He has been busy taking inventory and assessing the needs of the groups. I did attend a meeting that handed out a 48 yr. medallion. The Cold Spring Wednesday night meeting is having an open speaker meeting on October 30 at 8:00pm. There will be a potluck prior to the meeting at 6:30 featuring spaghetti. Brad H of St. Cloud will be sharing his experience, strength and hope.

Peggy, DCM of District 13, has asked me to be on the panel for the sponsorship service workshop to be held on November 16th starting at 11:30 with a potluck. Thank you, Peggy.

Yours in service, Fred T

PUBLIC INFORMATION – RANDY A
Public Information Report

Greetings Area 35 – we had our PI Information booth commitments at the State Fair last month. All the 2- hour slots were filled for both days. It was very hard to find volunteers in Area 35 despite putting out the information, many phone calls and e/mails were sent out, there were some responses that were positive. We had a total of 5 people from our area, the rest were recruited from Area 36. The weather was very hot and muggy and there was no Air conditioning in the building. But despite the uncomfortable weather, there were lots of people in the building browsing the variety of booths. I was the day captain for the Sunday commitment and was there for over 12 hours. It is a very long day if you are designated as a day captain for the whole shift. You have to visit the fairgrounds and stay busy. On a positive note, we were able to download PSAs from GSO website for a local radio station vendor that was from Northern Minnesota. They had a genuine interest in some of the information we had given them Some pamphlets were also given away and there were some inquisitive people that did visit the booth with questions, many visitors were already in the fellowship and just dropped by to say hello. Many of the volunteers were from Area 36 and were AA members who had made the commitment many times before.

As the PI Chair of Area 35 there were many concerns regarding this commitment. The first was the difficulty of finding members who were willing to commit. Many expressed concerns over finances and were unable to commute that far for a 2-hour commitment unless they were going to the Fair with their family. The Fair cost \$ 20 for parking and \$ 18 for entry fee and another \$ 20 for meals plus \$ 50 for travel for gas. Some people asked me if the Area was going to pay their expenses? When I told them no that it was a service commitment that they had to pay out of pocket they refused to commit. As the Area PI chair I am always open to ideas, and suggestions. We followed the checklist and guidelines to the best of our abilities and called and thanked all of our members from Area 35 who were willing to help. Overall. most of the volunteers enjoyed the experience and were enthusiastic. There were few if any concerns and complaints. We have made this commitment for many years and I'm assuming over the years, has slowly lost interest due to lack of participation in service work and expenses and other factors. Hopefully. In the future we can get more ideas, suggestions and

more people to commit. It’s all about how we can help the still suffering alcoholic.

Last month they canceled the Recovery, Healing & Health conference in Walker MN. And never got back to me about the rescheduled date. Hopefully they will reschedule soon so we can get them some information and get a booth set up. The districts have been very active in helping carry the message through the distribution of Big Books and literature in libraries, inserting pamphlets in public places. Contact cards have been made by some groups and distributed throughout the community. The district phone lines are also being utilized and covered by AA members in the districts.

The Public Information Desk at GSO released a letter on September 6th. 2024 – AA has announced the release of a series of audio interviews featuring US and Canadian Military members in recovery from alcoholism. Conducted between 2020-2022, the interviews explore the unique challenges of serving in the military while navigating recovery, they are now available on the AA website and the AA YouTube channel.

We had 13 people present in our combined PI/CPC committee meeting this morning- we had 4 agenda topics discussed: 1. State Fair booth commitment 2, Putting on a workshop for the Area. 3. PI/CPC Information, job responsibilities, where to get the information. 4. District reports. There was lots of discussion pertaining to the state Fair commitment and lots of feedback and opinions. The consensus from this was not to commit to this and to hear more input from the group’s conscience. There was a plethora of concerns as well as some good, mostly being demographics, feasibility, and willingness to commit. There was discussion on implementing our own workshop in Area 35 – this would be a combined PI/CPC workshop with no affirmative dates or presenters yet, but a pool of speakers was put on a list. It’s a work in progress and more information will be forthcoming. There were many informative district reports, phone lines, beginners’ meetings, QR codes on distribution cards, PI Luncheons, etc.

Thank You for letting be of Service in Alcoholics Anonymous! It is greatly appreciated!

Randy A. Area 35 PI Chair

DISTRICT 1 - LOREN G.
Loren G. gave verbal report

TREATMENT – KYLE
Kyle gave Verbal Report

SATURDAY EVENING ENDED 9:00 - ICE CREAM

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION-9:00AM

NEW BUSINESS:

State Fair Booth-
Randy PI Chair discussed difficulty with State Fair booth this year- Difficulty communicating with PI Chair of Area 36 - 5 people from Area 35 committed to helping with booth for both days - Day Captain covered 12 hour shift with no volunteers to help - 24 slots to fill each day with a few last minute cancellations-

Most members contacted didn't want to travel that far for a 2- or 4-hour shift- Most people that volunteered already had plans to be there with family Feasibility expense lots of people asked if they would get their expenses paid by the area when they were told they would not, that it was a service commitment to volunteer their own dollars many refused to commit or wouldn't call back-

Some said safety was an issue worried leaving vehicles in parking lot that long- Demographics was concern many said too far to travel - most volunteers that covered the shifts live in Area 36. This commitment has run its course- used to be easy to fill spots but in past years it has been difficult. There was no AC in building quite hot and muggy in Education building with heat warnings this is unbearable for our older members . The break room AC but you could not be there more than 10 minutes- The \$700 we provide could be spent on other services- It's not the Area 35 PI Chair's decision to make- to suspend or continue this service commitment, but to inform the group conscience of Alcoholics Anonymous in Area 35 the challenges continuing to happen and increasing difficulty to get volunteers- suggestions to help are welcome, many volunteers who participated experienced enthusiasm with willingness to serve in this capacity- there were few if any complaints and concerns with volunteers who served-

Discussion-
-it's disheartening to hear PI Chair struggled to do this as well as our last PI Chair. Very disappointed in Area 35- there are people that can drive, can afford to go sit in the booth- Bill and Bob would be disappointed- -Suggest that times have been difficult I was day captain for 12 hours, difficult to do- I suggest we end it use the \$700 somewhere else-- When the AA booth was in Grandstand area years ago it was fun we had good exposure - but doesn't think it brought in new AA members- switching it to education center does not have good visibility- most people visiting booth are AA members already- we are not spreading the message that much- my experience was opposite, we made connections with Corrections people, had people asking how they can help family members get sober
Motion by Sue to not be involved in State Fair anymore- Seconded by Julie

Discussion on motion -
-At Area 35/36 Joint Workshop in PI Committee with Area 36 Delegate and

Chair expressing same concern as our PI Chair- not sure this is the best use of their money and will also be discussing this
-Good points to this- I question if it impacts negatively Tradition 6 and 11 lending the name to outside enterprise- promotion rather than attraction
-Couldn't district get together or groups to do this together with others-
- A District has a commitment at Mille Lacs Co Fair, doing this for years.
44- 2 hours slots to fill - it is a struggle, but we usually end up getting it filled
- It is rewarding service commitment- 10 percent people do 90 percent of work- always asking how to get people involved- commitment is worth the effort
-Aren't we a selfish lot- This is public information service for our community we should keep it going- -What length are we willing to go for sobriety our 12th step
-We vote on this each year- few years ago we voted not to participate, people weren't happy, but we have chosen not to participate before-- can people that want to volunteer do so with Area 36? depending on Area 36 PI Chair at the time- It was difficult conversing this year with the Area 36 PI Chair - didn't feel very unified-
Motion passed - Minority Opinion none

-Tabled Motion from Saturday- Budget-
We received record contributions last year with \$52,000- we have never had over \$50,000 - thank you groups! However expenses are rising, things we want to do are more expensive. We want to mention Power of the Purse too- if your group is exercising their Power of the Purse, please let us know in a letter, email or phone call. If your group is not happy with something the Area is doing or not doing, please let us know so we can address it.
-Technical difficulties- moving back to New Business-

Hybrid ACM's/Assemblies-
Motion by Neil to reconsider the online hybrid option for Area events- no second to the motion-
There is an Ad hoc committee to discuss these kinds of things with the hope of having a report ready for the Spring Assembly-Stay Tuned

Nominations for Trustee at Large-
Chair asked Past Delegates - Scott willing to stand? no, Jim K willing to stand? no- Steve L. willing to stand? yes, Mike J. willing to stand? yes
Steve L. and Mike J. are willing to stand for Trustee at Large position

COMMITTEE CHAIR & DCM REPORTS

DISTRICT 5 – CHAD O.
Hello All, Chad O. here, District 5 meets at 7pm on the third Monday of each month, we meet at Trinity Lutheran Church in Princeton. Our treatment chair had to step down but she found a replacement for her position and it appears we're not going to skip a beat. We are bringing meetings into the Sherburne County jail on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, both men’s and women’s meetings and we are in the Mille Lacs County jail every Tuesday evening.

We also have a commitment at Nystroms treatment center in Big Lake every Monday night.

District 5 was asked by Pat M. to present at the winter workshop in Crookston as there was an open slot that needed to be filled, we had a group conscious discussion at our District meeting and unanimously accepted the offer. We're looking forward to the opportunity.

We have a great group of GSR’s that are engaged in their groups and participation in the district. We had a new guy scouting out what it’s all about to be a GSR for his group last month, we hope to see him back and participating/representing his group at the District level.

That's it for now, I’m grateful for the opportunity to serve. Chad O.

DISTRICT 14 - NO DCM

CPC – MARY
My name is Mary, I am an alcoholic and CPC Area35 Chairperson In the October Grapevine Issue there was a “Special Section” about Cooperation with Professionals, please read it if you have a chance. The Grapevine title was “Operation Cooperation”. There is good information in the articles. I’d also like to share that there is a national PI/CPC working group that meets monthly via ZOOM. The next On-Line meeting is October 12 and 11:00 am Central Time. The ZOOM ID number is 833 2428 3764 and the password is: 411 The contact for this ZOOM meeting is: Picpceastbay@gmail.com Please join if you would like to see what is happening in the areas and districts around the United States.

During our Area 35 PI/CPC breakout session we discussed the idea of organizing a PI/CPC Workshop for all PI/CPC folks in January or February in Brainerd. A Date and Site and Speakers need to be confirmed and then the information will be posted.

Lastly, I’d like to say that 42 years ago, I contacted a Lutheran Minister to get help for my “problems”. Because an AA had contacted this minister and gave him some literature, he was able to share it with me. The minister and I completed the “Are You an Alcoholic” checklist. The brochure stated at the bottom “ If you answered YES to 3 or more of the questions, you are DEFINITELY an Alcoholic. I answered yes to 11 of the questions. And if I had been honest (it was difficult for me to be completely honest with a Lutheran Minister) I probably lied a bit. This minister was familiar with a local Treatment Center. He called them and scheduled an appointment for an evalua-

(Continued from page 7)
tion, and I began outpatient treatment on September 7, 1982. It was a couple of months later I began to attend AA Meetings. I must say, whoever gave the literature to the Minister indirectly SAVED MY LIFE! So don't ever think that your outreach work is in vain. I am a miracle standing before you and all of you are miracles too.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Alcoholics Anonymous. Mary S.

DISTRICT 21 – JERI S

It is a privilege to continue to serve as District 21 DCM!

As we spring into fall, I continue to visit District 21 Meetings inquiring about the Group's GSR's, encouraging current GSR's to attend our District 21 Meetings the second Monday of each month at 7:00 PM Alano Club Gratitude Hall! I am happy to report this has resulted in more participation in our District 21 Meeting including AA members volunteering to be GSR's such as Hal from our Noon Meeting including Alternate GSR Trevor! Both attended our recent Area 35 Assembly in Alexandria MN including our Secretary, Jen M and a Woman's Way GSR Kat and Corrections Trusted Servant. Many thanks to Patrick for also volunteering for the Men's Correction Trusted Servant position as well as Steve volunteering to be our new PI/CPC Trusted Servant. Participation at our District 21 Meetings continues to gain momentum and I thank you all for your participation! On 7/5/24, I met with Area 35 Former Delegate Steve and Secretary Sally to review "The Articles of Association." Many thanks to our Former Area 35 Delegate Steve for his excellent work and Former Area 35 Secretary Sally for her excellent editing skills! October 14th Monday 7:00 PM, our Area 35 Delegate Diane R and Alternate Delegate Pat will be attending our District 21 Meeting! I want to thank current District 21 Trusted Servants Mary Treasurer, Alternate Treasurer, Jen M, Dale Secretary, Brent Archives, Kat Corrections, Patrick Corrections, and Steve PI/CPC--I cannot do this work without you! District 21 will continue to have open visitation by Area 35 Officer and Committee Chairs past and present. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service!

Thank You! Jeri S

DISTRICT 6 – JULIE N

Hellooooooooo Area,

It's always nice seeing everyone at the fall assembly back at district 6. We continued our tailgate roll and now, we have just finished up our last one for the year. I want to thank the district for their continuous support through tailgating. I have reached out to a few committee chairpeople at our district to find out what I could do to help better than in their position. Feel we have connected and have a deep understanding of what their chair position entails. I also went to the Isanti County Jail to find out more information on what our district can do to serve are inmates. We are looking for six men and six women to bring in meetings to the county jail I also signed out for myself so that I could take meetings in as well we will see you all at the January workshop where pat's alternate delegate has asked us to help out with workshop. . Thank you for allowing me to serve a super fantastic fall- Julie N

DISTRICT 9 – TOM T

I believe District 9 is in the process of growing through participation of younger members that are being mentored by some of the older members. It's truly the spirit of love for the still suffering Alcoholic. Our CPC/PI chair and team have been reaching our communities with literature and word of mouth and the reception has been exciting. This is a great example for our newer GSR's wanting to participate and truly find lasting sobriety.

I have been attending the workshops (online) for TEAMS, put on by our Area Webmaster, Terry. It is a lot like ZOOM plus some additional features. I attended the Area Committee Meetings in Aitkin.

District 9 members have submitted 2 "Proposed Agenda Items" for the next GSC. They were thoroughly discussed in our District and fully supported. We did receive confirmation that they will be considered by the Trustee's Literature Committee and the Trustees Conference Committee for the next GSC.

We do have new and updated "Meeting Directory" cards if anyone wants some.

We will have a workshop this fall/winter, but it has not yet been decided if it will be "Tri-District" or just District 9.

Pleased to be in service to you, Tom T

ARCHIVES – CATHY R

We have had a couple of meetings where various folks attended and offered suggestions.

Marc has worked with Steve L. to record on an MP3, the voices of Dr. Bob and Bill. We have 8 different recordings. Additionally, we have created some fliers to remind GSRs, DCMs and all members of AA that they are welcome at the Archives Repository in Aitkin. The hours are the 3rd Sunday of the month from noon to 4pm. The Archivist and an Archives Chair have both placed their phone numbers on the flier so that other days may be used.

There are some decisions about what should be achieved. These decisions need to be made by an active Archives committee. Please consider becoming a member of this active committee. I would like to thank Districts 9, 8, 12, 6 and 13 for their attendance at our meeting. There were lots of questions asked and answered.

In Service, Cathy R

ARCHIVIST – MARC N

AA Archives are there for people to look at and research, listen to old audio tapes and old oral histories. They are available for you to come and enjoy. We have books about the Washingtonians and the Temperance movement. We have a ton of AA Books and Grapevine Magazines. We have things from Districts, District 12 has a lot of stuff, District 6 has a lot of stuff that I haven't even gotten into as I am totally immersed in converting cassette tapes into MP3 format. Once they are in MP3 format, they are portable and are preserved. I did not attend the National Archives Workshop in Des Moines Iowa; the cost would have been excessive, and the Area did not have the funds. I asked for the agenda for the workshop, and it was mostly concerned with preservation of archive items. I am already immersed in digitizing the archives and preservation so I didn't go, and it would have been on my dime at a cost of about \$1,000.00. The Area can't afford it, and neither can I and I am already doing the work, so I didn't need to go. The Archives Repository is open on the third Sunday of the month and at other times by appointment. I did not have any scheduled events in August or September, so I didn't go anywhere. I am willing to go to any of your events and bring small archives display with me whether it is a Round Up or even a Round Robin, whatever your event is, I am willing to come, just let me know.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Marc N.

DISTRICT 4 – JIM T

Kenny gave verbal report

DISTRICT 18 – STEVE T

District 18 Neil R. Filling in as acting DCM today. Greetings from Dist 18. Unfortunately, we had to elect our 3rd DCM for this rotation last week. Steve is currently out in North Dakota celebrating either his daughter's or granddaughters 1 year of sobriety, so he is not able to be with us today. We currently have all our chairs except the Alt DCM filled. We might be looking for new treatment if Steve isn't willing to hold both positions. We have just recently elected a new corrections chair. We have about 2 dozen meetings in our district. The Motley Monday 12 x 12 is looking for help, it is down to 1 member, and we also have another women's meeting starting in Staples. The Staples Experience and Hope group has their Gratitude Dinner November 23 and Districts 7 and 18 are hosting a 12 Step Big Book Study at the Fort Ripley Town Hall on 10th 11th and 12th. Dist. 18 holds their meeting at 6 pm on the first Tuesday of each month. All are welcome to come and visit.

Thanks District 18, Neil R.

GRAPEVINE -TERRY A

Terry gave verbal report

DISTRICT 3 – MELVIN S

District 3 meets every 3rd Sunday of the month at the Perham Club at noon. The county jails in district 3, Becker, Clay, Ottertail and Wadena are all getting men's meetings brought in. The women are working on getting a meeting going in Becker County jail. Lake's Counseling in Detroit Lakes and Re-wind in Perham are having speakers from the groups come in on a regular basis.

Our Treasurer Will K. has decided to take over the website and is planning to give it an update. Our previous webmaster Pete had been doing the website for about 4 years, Thanks Pete.

District 3 has been getting more summer residents than before, and some have started 2 new Seasonal meetings lasting for 6 months. One meeting may continue via zoom for the winter. This is a new trend for our district. Our Round Robin Speaker meetings are still great, the September meeting in Perham had about 80 in attendance. The October meeting will be in Detroit Lakes hosted by the Friday Noon and Eye Opener Groups. I will try to put a plug in for the district, Area 35 and GSO during announcements. I have also seen newer members get involved in the planning and helping at these meetings, which is neat to witness.

We get about 8 GSR's on a steady basis but we still haven't been able to get anyone to stand for PI, CPC or Grapevine. I still try to visit some of the meetings in the district although some are almost an hour away, I have seen members from these meetings show up at district meetings, which is encouraging.

In Service, Melvin

DISTRICT 12 – RICH G

No report.

DISTRICT 16 – DAVE C

I'm Dave. I'm an alcoholic, District 16 DCM. Yesterday 16 Held a Public information luncheons. About 40 were Present. I was told all went well. Tuesday night's solutions Group Is having their 50th open speaker meeting. At the United Methodist Church. Potluck will be at 5:30. Al-anon speaker will be at 7:00. The AA speaker will be at 8:15. For more information Flyers are on the registration table. District 16 has an ample supply. in their Seven step Treasury and a prudent reserve. Yours in service Dave C
CORRECTIONS – MARK R
My sincere thanks and gratitude to our A.A. members in Area 35 Districts

and Groups, who are presently holding meetings in County Jails and Minnesota Correctional Facilities. I would also like to thank all District Corrections Chairs for all their efforts in making sure the Hand of A.A. is always available to those men and women less fortunate than us members on the outside. Many hours are spent organizing meetings, working with jails to get volunteers approved, and managing rosters of volunteers. It is a sincere privilege to work with all of these dedicated A.A. members who understand the privilege we have been given by our Higher Power!

We continue to look for OUTSIDE A.A. members who would be willing to work on CTCP requests from INSIDE A.A. members looking to find Temporary Contacts. As an OUTSIDE Volunteer, you will correspond with these A.A. Members, and when released, bring them to A.A. meetings and help introduce them to the A.A. Fellowship in the area they are going to be released. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! This may possibly be the most rewarding and important Twelfth Step service work you will ever do.

I continue to be available to help our Area 35 District Corrections Chairs & DCMs with their respective Corrections opportunities. If you are a DCM or Corrections Chair, please contact me with any information you have regarding A.A. member contacts, new Corrections Chairs, or Corrections Facility Contacts you may have.

We had 11 attended the Corrections Action Chair Committee meeting this morning, with 3 of them attending for the first time! The following are the statuses of each of them.

CORRECTIONS ACTION CHAIR COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES:

Jeff O. (D6 Corrections Volunteer): Jeff spoke about corresponding with a man who is incarcerated at MCF-Stillwater. Jeff and his brother have been writing back and forth with this man for a while now – very rewarding he said! This Corrections Correspondence program is through GSO and is in real need of many more volunteers.

Kateri P. (D21 Corrections Volunteer): This was Kateri’s first time at an Area Assembly and attending our Corrections meeting! Kateri will be starting up a women’s A.A. meeting at Beltrami County jail on Thursdays. There is a men’s meeting on Tuesdays and Patrick D. is facilitating those meetings. There are 2 men volunteers and about 25 attendees. Right now, Kateri is the only women volunteer.

Melvin S. (D3 DCM and Corrections Volunteer): Melvin is one of our Corrections Action Chairs. Meetings continue strongly in District 3 at Becker, Ottertail, Wadena, and Clay County jails! Hoping to get a women’s meeting started at Becker County however, there are only a few women in the jail, so it has been hard to start it up. Clay County jail meetings are being facilitated by the Moorhead/Fargo group and the District is not involved in those.

Ricco R. (D9 Corrections Chair): Going on the 5th Wednesday each month with Jerry bringing A.A. meetings into MCF-TOGO. The fellowship there is growing, and the men are commenting how they want this to work as they DO NOT want to return to prison again! Ricco attended the MCF-Moose Lake Transition Fair with Joseph S (Area 36), it was an awesome experience he said. They even had to men who had life sentences attend the fair (after serving 25 years of a life sentence, you become eligible in Minnesota to have a parole hearing) – because of that, they were invited to attend the fair. Mark sent the PDF for GSO’s Corrections Correspondence for the INSIDE to Tisha Harder at MCF-Moose Lake and she will be getting the forms to these 2 men. Ricco volunteered to be a Temporary Contact for one of the men from Moose Lake. Ricco also volunteered to attend the Willow River #2 Transition Fair with Mike U. (Area 35 Literature Chair). Thanks Ricco!

John D. (D13 Corrections Chair): Dawn from Stearns County has been holding quarterly orientations for volunteers. They have a women’s A.A. meeting going however, there are not enough men volunteers to get a men’s meeting started. John is working hard to get men volunteers – Come on St Cloud – take your A.A. Program to the next level and volunteer for this extraordinary service work!! There are seven women and one man who have completed the training. Benton County meetings continue every Monday evening at 6:30 (women's) and 7:30 (men's). There are 14 volunteers for the Benton County meetings. Meetings on Tuesdays & Thursdays at MCF-St Cloud

JJ (D13 GSR, Alt Corrections Chair): JJ has been taking meetings into Benton County jail for the past 3 years and has been helping John grow their volunteer base!

Kathy (D6 Corrections Volunteer): Isanti County jail, meetings are going very well. There are currently 6 volunteers, and they are working on attracting more.

Adam C. (D16 Corrections Chair): Isanti County has a new jail. Meetings have just started there on Thursdays at 7pm. There are 2 men’s pods with 9 attendees. They currently have 6 volunteers. There is also a women’s meeting, but Adam did not have any information other than there is an active A.A. meeting for the women. Adam would like to look into volunteering at MCF-TOGO and Ricco will be getting him the contact information.

Carter L. (D5 Corrections Chair): Meetings are going well at Mille Lacs County jail on Tuesday from 7:30pm-8:30pm. There are 6 volunteers, and the average attendance is about 14. New orientation for the next year is coming up November 7th and 14th. All volunteers are required to attend. Sherburne County jail has men’s and women’s meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 6:30pm-7:30pm. There are 6 men and 6 women volunteers facilitating meetings for 16 women and from 1 to 15 men. Right now, there are 3 men’s pods and 1 women’s pod participating. Sherburne County would like to start up a 4th men’s pod – Carter is working hard on finding volunteers. Again, COME ON Elk River, Big Lake, Becker, Zimmerman, Princeton, and Milaca men – WE NEED YOU!

Gary H. (D11 Corrections Chair): Gary has been taking meetings into Pine & Kanabec County jails for years. He also brings them into MSOP, MCF-Willow River, Sandstone Federal prison, and MCF-Rush City. Gary is thin as he and very few others are doing this service work. A.A. members who are men in these areas, please jump in and be of service – WE NEED YOU; Gary needs you!

Mark R. (A35 Corrections Chair): I am having a meeting in Mille Lacs County jail on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Every Thursday, I facilitate an A.A. meeting inside MCF-St Cloud. Very powerful meetings with as many as 34 men in attendance. We read from the Big Book and are now in “The Family Afterward”. Once we have finished the first 164 pages in the A.A. Big Book, we are going to read and work through Steps 1-5 in the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. Our plan after that is to do a 4th Step Workshop Inside MCF-ST Cloud for the Thursday evening group (this is already started on Tuesdays with that group)! We are feeling God all around us in MCF-St Cloud and HE is taking us in this direction. All of us feel honored and grateful to be doing God and A.A.’s work INSIDE.

We need to help more volunteers all over Northern Minnesota with Bridging the Gap (CTCP) as Temporary Contacts. I will be hosting the 2024 Minnesota Statewide Corrections Workshop November 2nd and will be on the Corrections Panel at the St Cloud Service Workshop November 16th.

God Bless you all,
Mark R

Area 35 Fall Assembly SWCC Chair Report by Mark Rinehart October 5-6, 2024

Our committee continues to work hard to promote A.A. Corrections Service Work throughout the State of Minnesota! At our October 2, 2024, meeting, the following A.A. Members attended: Paul H. (A35/D3 Corrections Chair), Chuck R. (A35/ D18 Corrections Chair), Bill H. (A35/D18 Corrections Volunteer), Melven S. (A35/D3 DCM), Joseph S. (A36/D15 Correction Chair), Carter L. (A35/D5 Corrections Chair), Mark R. (SWCC/ A35 Corrections Chair), Ricco R. (A35/D9 Corrections Chair).

GENERAL SHARING & REPORTS

MIKE U. – Area 35 Literature Chair/D6 Corrections Volunteer: Mike Ran the Thursday night A.A. meetings at Isanti County jail. They rotate volunteers on a month basis. Averaging 4 men from 3 pods. Running 3 minutes 20 minutes each one after the other. Looking to add Monday nights but need volunteers. Mike volunteered at MCF-Rush City Transition

Fair and will also be with Ricco at MCF-Willow River #2.
RICCO R. - Area 35, District 9 Corrections Chair: Attended the MCF-Moose Lake Transition Fair September 17th. Handed out and had over 4 men fill out CTCP requests. Ricco is helping bring A.A. meetings into MCF-TOGO on the 5th Wednesdays each month. Ricco has also volunteered to attend the Willow Rive #2 Transition Fair October 15th!

PAUL H. - Area 35, District 3 Corrections Chair: Ottertail, Wadena, and Becker Couty jail meetings are going well. I am still looking forward to starting a Women’s A.A. meeting in Becker County jail. Have 8-10 volunteers across all facilities.

CHUCK R. - Area 35, District 18 Corrections Chair: Taking A.A. meeting into Todd County jail on Monday nights. 10 volunteers rotate and there are 2 volunteers for each of the 3 men’s pods. There is a women’s pod, 1 Solitary confinement, and a men’s pod with 6-13 attendees. Need women volunteers.

BILL H. (Area 35, District 18 Corrections Volunteers): Bill has been working closely with Chuck at Todd County jail.

MELVIN S. (Area 35, District 3 DCM): Meetings continue strong in District 3 at Becker, Ottertail, Wadena, and Clay County jails! Hoping to get a women’s meeting started at Becker County however, there are only a few women in the jail, so it has been hard to start it up. Clay County jail meetings are being facilitated by the Moorhead/Fargo group and the District is not involved in those.

JOSEPH S. (Area 36, District 15 Corrections Chair): Joe has been taking A.A. meetings into Washington County jail on , 2 men’s and 1 woman. They have 6 volunteers at this time. Joseph also has meetings with Stillwater, MSOP, and Lino Lakes. Joseph attended the MCF-Moose Lake Transition Fair with Ricco on September 17th and will also be attending the MCF-Stillwater fair on November 13th.

MARK R. - Area 35 Corrections Chair, SWCC Chair: Meeting is going strong on Thursdays at MCF-St Cloud from 6:15pm-7:15pm. Continue to average over 24 men. We have 6 volunteers on Thursdays. I attend Mille Lacs County jail meeting on the 2nd Tuesday each month, average 12-14 men. We are all set for the 2024 Corrections Workshop.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

2024 SWCC Corrections Workshop:

We are all set for the workshop. Ricco and Diane R will be handling on-site registrations. Carter L and Melvin S will be handling collecting money for lunch and handing out lunch tickets. Joseph S. has volunteered to be our greeter

Nominations for new SWCC Officers (Chair, Alt-Chair, Secretary):

We have a single person who has come forward showing an interest in the SWCC Chair position. We need more A.A. members to show interest in the Alt-Chair and Secretary positions from either Area 35 or Area 36!

2024 MCF Transition Fairs: Mike U and John K (Area 36) will be attending the MCF-Rush City Transition Fair. Ricco R and Mike U will be attending the MCF-Willow River #2 Transition Fair. Shakopee will be held November 5th. Jessica S. (Area 35/D7 DCM) will be attending from our Area and the Area 36 person is Gail s. (MLPS Intergroup Manager). Joseph will be attending the MCF-Stillwater Transition Fair November 13th.

The SWCC meets on the 1st Wednesday of each Month. Our next meeting is Wednesday, November 6, 2024

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

Meeting ID: 816 0729 1607 Passcode: 261258

Humbled & Honored to Serve you, Mark R

DISTRICT 13 – PEGGY M
Greetings! My name is Peggy DCM for District 13.

We have been very busy over the over the last few months, here are a few highlights.

1. The District 13 Fall workshop is November 16th at the St. Cloud Alano club. We have past Delegate and Mark R sharing their stories on sponsorship and service. Plus, two panel workshops! And a potluck!
2. All Committee chairs are working hard; PI, Treatment, Literature, Corrections, Treasurer doing the work of the district.
3. PI is verifying meetings, taking Big Books/literature into facilities and conducting AA phone line training.
4. Our Treasurer prepared the District Budget, and it was sent to the groups who are asking questions and discussing it in preparation for voting on the Budget in November.
5. We are planning to have an AA table at Project Connect, an event for folks that are homeless or at risk for becoming homeless, in St. Cloud October 29th, 2024, at the River’s Edge Convention Center.

The contribution of several boxes of literature for Detox and the Beginners meeting continues to be distributed. My primary focus has been getting out to AA meetings. The visits are very well received. We are participating in the Corrections workshop on Nov. 2nd and hope to see many of you there. We have great positive energy moving forward!

Grateful Peggy M

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

-Does the Area want to send in Theme Workshop ideas for the 2026 GSC-
- idea for a Theme- Changing our Manner of Communication without Changing our A.A Message - Workshop ideas- How to get more Participation- Spirituality, Accountability, Responsibility- Into Action Step up to the Plate-Spirit of Rotation-

GSR SHARING SESSION REPORT
Verbal report given Dennis

DCM SHARING SESSION REPORT
DCM Sharing Session - Jess S.

Q1: How do we motivate people to become involved in service?
A1: Information sharing, education, working alongside new members. Pick up the phone, help make connections, create District Actions Book, hold workshops

Q2: How do we make corrections work more attractive?
A2: Encourage sponsees, led by example. Reach out to Area Corrections Chair for help, hold Corrections workshops, attend transition fairs, have a master contact list of those who want to be involved, make yourself relative to them, power point/information presentation at AA meetings (taking first 10 minutes of meeting), email application to groups regularly

Q3: How do DCMs educate the groups?
A3: Make connections within the fellowship, “Thank You” cards or letters to groups who have contributed, host workshops, email information to other DCMs to share

Q4: How should we discuss Tradition 7 w/groups?
A4: Actively visiting groups, hosting an annual business meeting, figure expense report, post contributions/proof of expenses paid on district website, continue visiting groups that aren’t contributing and encourage\

Q5: How is your district sending alternate members & upcoming service members to Area functions, financially?
A5: Cover funds for any officer who wants to go from the district, look to Actions Book or create action, pay in advance if needed/share rooms & costs, etc., discuss who does want to go before discussing budget

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED
-Budgets-
-Reviewed the budget by each position- Delegate miscellaneous cost of \$2,200 is our Area's contribution to the General Service Conference- Budget was changed to show reimbursement for only the Delegate and Alt Delegate to attend the West Central Regional AA Service Conference and West Central Regional Forum in person- the other Officers and Area Chairs that choose to attend will be reimbursed the \$25.00 Virtual Registration Fee- Corrections Budget- decreased by \$250 for Literature/Supplies that still remain- The cost of the facility for the Corrections Workshop is split with Area 36- Removed State Fair Booth cost- Why is Northern Light not Digital to save on printing and postage?- We need to have **printed** record of minutes for the Area Assembly in the Norther Light, difficult to email this due to the size of the Northern Light- We post it to our webpage to be downloaded- Members still want the printed version- We print 1,000 which is the minimum amount we can order with our current printer-

Area 35 2025 Budget	\$64,205.57
expected Contributions	\$55,000.00
Projected Loss	(9,205.57)
2024 Budget	\$63,638.06

Motion to Approve Budget by Jess Second by Neil Motion Passes

-Ask-it-basket
Four past Delegates answered Ask It Basket Questions- **Question-** Can a Group or District put on a Round up? **Answer** - I don't see why not? There are Round Ups all over the place-

Question - Do you feel you have impacted the still suffering alcoholic? in what ways when you were delegate? **Answer-** I hope so, on literature committee we discussed the Plain and Simple Language Big Book- hopefully we passed items that were useful-

Question- No background information given on items discussed, topics to be voted on, would like to have voted on the Intergroup thing, Can we change that, so we know what we are discussing? **Answer** - Sometimes we shortchange ourselves thinking everybody that showed up to vote has gone through background- We can do better with this. It's good to ask questions so we get better-

Question - Why does the 7th tradition always comes up? Is it fear? **Answer** - It does always come up starting in our home groups -important at all levels, District, Area, home group and General Service Office.

Question- We paid \$700 for half the literature to Area 36 for the State Fair, what happens to the Literature that is left over? Do we get half back?? **Answer** - The \$700 isn't going to just literature, we contribute to defray cost of State Fair- We get no refunds or literature back- total cost of fair is roughly \$2500-\$3500 we pay a portion.

Question - Have any Trustees now or in the past come from Area 35? **Answer-** Yes, Tom A. was West Central Trustee. Current Class A nonalcoholic Trustee from Area 36 Southern MN-

Question - Why does the Area at the Assembly have nonbusiness items such as speakers and workshops before all business is completed? Some members can only make it for the main day of the event. **Answer** - If this is something you want to implement and stay up for, maybe we can line it up.

Question - Why didn't Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (AAWS) send a vote to all groups worldwide before moving forward with the changes or amplification of the 12 steps and 12 traditions as printed in the new Plain and Simple Language Big Book? **Answer** - They are printing the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions as they are written, and the way they have told us, this book is a translation, that body said this whether we agree or not- The General Service Conference and the Board decided to move forward with this - they did not believe putting in translated version of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions were changing them. That is why they did not seek 75% of the Groups consent- whether we agree or not, that was the decision-

Question - Who pays for the Trustee at Large's travel and expenses? **Answer** - We all do, our contributions go to the General Service Board and that is who pays for the expenses

Question - What is a Trustee at Large? **Answer-** They serve for 4- 1-year terms, usually a Trustee at Large is involved in going overseas to other Countries bringing our ideas to the different nations that have their own Conferences. All Areas will have someone standing so we are one of 93 and one is chosen-

Question - I am a GSR interested in becoming DCM, what should I do to prepare for the role? **Answer-** Grab the service manual and read the job description- job description says to visit the groups, by doing that our district grew-

Question - Could we get a better explanation of the Right to Appeal as stated in Concept 5, the interpretation that only AAWS can appeal at the GSB level - **Answer** - Read it yourselves, with your sponsor and have conversation- I have a wider view on right of appeal - anyone that doesn't like what GSO or Board is doing can send in an appeal. We have had people from the Conference appeal to the Board the decisions the Conference made- The more we study and talk about these things the better it is-

Question - What responsibility does the District have to pay out? **Answer** - The District is responsible to the Groups-each district sends a DCM to the Area, which is your contribution to the Area - the DCM votes for the Groups

Question - Why don't we have a donation basket at Area functions, Assemblies, workshops etc... **Answer** - we do have it- it's called the group conscience- by the GSR going back to your groups and talking about how much it takes to make these functions happen in the Area- It is something you could bring up at the next Area Committee meeting or Assembly

Question - Can my District pay for GSR to come to an Assembly? **Answer-** Each District is autonomous, but why doesn't the Group have enough money to send GSR? More discussion on cost of doing things, being self-supporting in our own groups- If having a GSR is important to your group, your group should think what it cost to pay for GSR and put in money accordingly.

Question- How can the District spend money? **Answer** - sending DCM to Area workshop and assembly- and committee chairs to learn. District workshops that help the suffering alcoholic.

Question - On Page 117 of the 2024 final conference report where and who do pension funds go? **Answer:** It is retirement for the staff that work at the General Service Office.

Question - How to get old timers or sponsors more involved in carrying messages such as contributions and service work? **Answer** - best way is to have workshop and invite them

Question - How do you determine if a vote is a simple majority or 2/3 vote? **Answer** - Simplified version of Robert's Rules? Areas are autonomous- If it's routine business usually simple majority if it's elections 2/3rds. If there is a concern bring it up to the Area Committee for discussion-

TRUSTEE AT LARGE VOTE -
Nominations are Steve Lere and Mike Jake Jacobson- Third Legacy Procedures followed- First Round 51 Votes Need 34 for 2/3 Majority Mike - 35 Votes Steve 16 Votes
Mike Jacobson is our nominee for Trustee at Large- **Assembly closed 12:55 with Responsibility Statement**
Respectfully submitted by Denise Rinne Area 35 Secretary

Service and the Spirit of Rotation

A few plus years ago I was at one of my first closed meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous. I was voluntold, by an old timer, that I would need to show up and make coffee for the group. I told him I had a job and couldn’t commit. He told me, in so many words, you figured out how to get the drink you needed, you’ll figure it out how the coffee will be made. He saw I wasn’t doing well nor sure if I was coming back. I spoke with my manager and told him there was something important that I needed to do that one day a week. He responded that it would be ok with no further explanation needed. That was my excuse now gone. I felt obligated and did show up the next week. After a while I felt included, a part of the group and had purpose. I will be forever grateful to him. That meeting became my home group. Further service opportunities would come: Meeting chair, Group Service Representative and Treasurer. Each one I was either nominated or stepped up to fill the position.

Years later the Treasurer position was not filled at the District Level. I attended the monthly meetings as a GSR and was somewhat comfortable with the group and meeting format. I volunteered to throw my name in. I originally did so to make amends. My partner had joined Alcoholics Anonymous 20 years prior to me. He asked if I would type the monthly report. I begrudgingly said yes, I’ll type the damn report. How did they come up with all these crazy names for these groups? I guess I was being mentored into Alcoholics Anonymous before sobering up.

All of these service positions I was so afraid that I wouldn’t do it right, that I would make mistakes. Most of the positions I was mentored but the first few I learned by watching others. I overcame obstacles and was no longer afraid to ask questions. I started thinking more of others and less of myself. The people we meet along the way, the friendships that materialize, are invaluable. I have met so many people from our meetings all the way up to the area.

I took a year plus away from service work. I truly believe in the Spirit of Rotation. It’s important to me that a newcomer or even someone that’s been in AA awhile get the opportunity. We have a long-time member that reminds us, when celebrating birthdays or anniversaries, that now would be a good time to deepen our commitment to Alcoholics Anonymous. My birthday came up and I heard the spiel. I felt like something was missing in my program. My current home group had the Treasurer position open up this summer. It has now been filled and so am I.

I now look at service work as a privilege and a very small but important part in paying back for what has freely been given to me. I have a deeper appreciation for all those that step up and volunteer. Don’t miss out on your opportunity. Thank you to all those who were mentors and good examples. Thank you for my sobriety.

Yours in fellowship
Debbie P. Duluth

Announcing:
a new book from AAWS on sale November 1, 2024

PLAIN
LANGUAGE
BIG BOOK

A Tool for Reading
Alcoholics Anonymous

©2024 A.A. General Service Conference-approved literature

The Plain Language Big Book is a tool to help readers understand the book Alcoholics Anonymous, which was first published in 1939. This new book is designed so that the A.A. Twelve Step program of recovery from alcoholism may be easily understood and accessible by all people who have a desire to stop drinking.

Members of A.A. fondly call the original book Alcoholics Anonymous "the Big Book." It is the basic text of the A.A. program. The Plain Language Big Book has been written to present the original ideas and same spiritual message of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous.

This new text is not intended to replace the much beloved Big Book. Rather, the Plain Language Big Book is a book crafted over several years by A.A. members and publishing professionals to support alcoholics on the path to recovery. The book is intended to help people who have a problem with alcohol gain access to A.A.'s lifesaving message.

For years, A.A. members have expressed a need for a Plain Language Big Book. Based on the shared experience of A.A. members, some people may not have regular contact with other A.A. members to help them understand the A.A. program of recovery and the specific vocabulary as it is used throughout the original book Alcoholics Anonymous. Other people have a hard time reading, especially books that were written long ago. This Plain Language Big Book is written in simpler language to support readers in their recovery.

This book is published in accordance with Advisory Actions passed by substantial unanimity of the General Service Conference (GSC) of Alcoholics Anonymous. In 2021, the 71st GSC advised that this book be developed. Progress reports, then sample chapters were reviewed at the 72nd and 73rd GSCs. The final draft of the Plain Language Big Book was reviewed and approved by substantial unanimity at the 74th GSC, in April 2024. This process and outcome adopts this text as Conference Approved Literature.

The Plain Language Big Book covers the core content of what is the "abridged version" (the edition without personal stories) of the original Big Book.

Readers are also encouraged to seek out the current edition of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous and meet with A.A. members to support their own individual paths of recovery from alcoholism.

The Plain Language Big Book is A.A. General Service Conference-approved literature.

PLAIN LANGUAGE BIG BOOK: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous

- Publication (on-sale) date: November 1, 2024
- List Price \$11.
- Item B-90
- 192 pages; 8 1/2" x 11"
- Softcover format with flaps

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

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

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

AREA OFFICER & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS

DELEGATE- DIANE R

Hi,
In October, I presented my last report back from the conference in Bemidji. Thank you, Bemidji, for your support and for having me come and talk about what happened at the 2024 General Service Conference. There was lots of good discussions and questions. We, Pat M and I, stayed for their short business. meeting. As I was leaving, I was grateful we have so many com-mitted service members who love Alcoholics Anonymous.

The West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference (WCRAASC) flyer came out. The theme is “Working Together, Increasing Trust”. It will be held at the Best Western Downtown in Casper WY from February 28 - March 2. Rooms are \$99.00 and mention West Central Re-gional when calling for rooms. Phone number is (307)439-2074. Cutoff date is 1/27/24. You can register online at wcraasc2025.eventbrite.com (there is a charge for using Everbrite) or mail in registration is 2025 WCR, PO Box 846, Casper WY 82602. Preregistration is \$25.00 before 2/19/25 and after that is \$30.00. If you would like a registration form, please let me know. They will be available at the Area 35 Committee Meeting in Decem-ber and February, in the Northern Light, and at the Area 35 Workshop. We had our West Central Region Delegates’ Business meeting in October. Thinking ahead, the 2026 WCRAASC will be held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa at the Double Tree by Hilton. The 2025 WCR Forum will be held in Omaha NE.

Our West Central Regional Trustee mentioned that everything we do in Al-coholics Anonymous is because we love Alcoholics Anonymous. Four of the Area Delegates and four Alternate Delegates will be rotating this year. In October, the Grapevine General Service Conference Committee met and discussed 10 proposed agenda items (PAI). We did not get to choose what PAIs will make the agenda but did discuss them. It was an interesting learn-ing experience.

I had the opportunity to attend the part of the Area 36 Election Assembly. It was interesting and very different from our Election Assembly. They ap-pointed an election chair who was Mike L, our past WCR Trustee. The chair asked each area committee member if they want to stand for Delegate. The chair also asked if there were any nominations from the floor. All nomina-tions are listed. They are then asked to give a one-minute talk on their A.A. service experience. The vote is done by the third legacy procedure. All of-fice positions were done that way. They had no one standing for treasurer. They started about 9:30 am and finished about 3:00 pm. Area business took place while ballots were being counted. It was interesting to watch another area and how they have their elections. The election has hybrids. The color of your badge determined if you were a voting member or not. Their assem-bly was a one-day event.

There is always more information available from the General Service Office online at aa.org. Check out the “Quarterly Report from GSO”, “A.A.W.S. Highlights”, and of course “Box 459”n which is no longer available in a printed version.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE-PAT M

I had the pleasure of going to District 21 with Diane. I had the pleasure of chairing The Fall Assembly in Alexandria at the Holiday Inn. Thank you, Vicky, for allowing me to do that, it was a great experience. Every time you do something in AA service work, you learn something, and you learn some-thing about yourself.

The 49th annual area 35 service workshop will be held in Crookston Minne-sota at the Crookston Inn and Convention Center. To make reservations, the phone number is 218-470-1000. If you have any problems with making a reservation please contact me on 320-241-3909 and I will see if I can help you out.

I've been working on the Winter workshop in 2026. More information as it comes available. I attended the statewide corrections workshop on Novem-ber 2nd at Jack and Jim's event center in Duelm Minnesota. It was an incred-ible workshop, had great speakers, Carl D. from Colorado, Warden Jesse Pugh from the Saint Cloud prison, Craig H Area 36 corrections chair, and our very own Peggy M, area 35 district 13 DCM presented. Thank you for allowing me the service of your Alternate Delegate, Pat M

CHAIR – VICKI R

No report given

SECRETARY – DENISE R

Greetings,

Since the Fall Assembly I have prepared and distributed the unapproved Ar-ea 35 Fall Assembly Minutes.

I have contacted those that are willing to be on the Ad hoc Committee to review the Area 35 Trusted Servant Guidelines, clarify who are the voting members at the Assembly and Area Committee Meeting along with other items that may need clarification in our Area Actions Book . We are hoping to meet at least once before the December Area Committee Meeting.

Thank you for allowing me to service Area 35.
In Service
Denise R

TREASURER – HEIDI B

Attached is the final Area 35 2025 budget that was approved at Fall Assembly. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you for trusting me with this position and giving me the oppor-tunity to serve Area 35.

Heidi

Area 35 2025 Budget

Position		
Delegate	\$	8,658.42
Alt Delegate	\$	4,389.64
Chair	\$	2,547.90
Secretary	\$	975.00
Treasurer	\$	2,830.00
Archivist	\$	9,619.00
Archives	\$	1,970.00
Corrections	\$	2,939.00
CPC	\$	1,882.46
Grapevine	\$	1,483.48
Group Record	\$	830.00
Literature	\$	1,509.00
Nor Light	\$	5,947.00
PI	\$	1,302.22
Treatment	\$	1,210.00
Webmaster	\$	3,131.57
Audio Tech	\$	1,002.00
Events	\$	11,844.00
FOC	\$	134.88
Total Budget	\$	64,205.57

\$309 per year
\$25.72 per month

Expected Contributions		
	\$	55,000.00
Project Loss	\$	(9,205.57)

2024 Budget	63,638.06
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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

WEBMASTER – TERRY P

No report. given

NORTHERN LIGHT – JENNIFER T.

I want to thank Robin J. for filling in at the last assembly for me.

It was brought to my attention that some members aren’t receiving their Northern Light by mail, including me. Please let me know if this is still oc-curring as an updated mailing list gets sent for each edition and we want to make sure everyone is getting a copy directly to their mailbox that wants one. I will verify with the printer that they are deleting old mailing lists. Group records has been doing an outstanding job of keeping the list current.

A general reminder that event flyers submitted for printing that exceed the size quoted in the Northern Light have an extra cost passed on to the districts for printing . A \$20.00 fee will be added for a submission larger than 8 1/2 x 11.

I welcome continued submissions from all members of the area.

GROUP RECORDS – PHYLLIS K

GSRs/Contact People: 8
Meeting Guide: +13 and -1
Mailing List: +5
District Changes: +1 DCM Change and +1 District Corrections Chair
New Groups: 1
Returned Northern Lights: \$13. 50 at \$.90/copy
Help: 0

The Cloquet Alano Club Groups got updated and refreshed.
Thanks for helping us keep things current and refreshed.

We are working to make sure the Northern Light's mailing is correct and most current.

In loving service,
Phyll

LITERATURE – MIKE U
No report given

PUBLIC INFORMATION – RANDY A
No report given

TREATMENT – KYLE H
No report given

CPC - MARY S

Hello! It is a privilege to serve as your CPC Area 35 Committee Chairperson. At the last PI/CPC meeting held at our Area 35 Assembly we began planning a combined workshop. The Workshop will be held in Brainerd on January 25, 2025. The plans are currently in process and should be revealed at our Area 35 Committee Meeting on December 1st. So stay tuned. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Mary S
Area 35 CPC Chairperson

ARCHIVIST – MARC N

While sitting quietly at home I decided to research the beginnings of our Twelve Traditions. I remembered hearing that these were introduced via a Grapevine article, So I went to my online Grapevine archive subscription and looked back. I found the origin was published in July 1946. In that writing they were presented as “Points” rather than Traditions. The July 1946 article was written by Clem L and titled A Way of Life, it begins:
“In the Twelve Steps, A.A. offers not a theory, not a hypothesis, not a pious hope, not--thank God--wistful or wishful thinking, but an historical record of how more than 25,000 alcoholics achieved sobriety.

Set down from that same historical record are the *Twelve Points to Assure Our Future*, points dealing with us in A.A. as groups. They were set on paper by Bill, our founder, not as a sudden inspiration but only after long and prayerful thought and in response to an insistent and persistent demand from groups throughout the country.”

Then in a Grapevine article from November 1951 I found this:
“We drunks are life's rebels, nonconformists who have miraculously found sanctuary outside the conventions of normal society. We cherish our individuality and mean to keep it. Anything written which wasn't in the original version of the Big Book is viewed with suspicion. . .at least until it proves itself. So it has been with the Twelve Traditions, even though Bill himself wrote them.

Correction please! Bill has said many times that he didn't write the Traditions; that he merely held the pen while the group conscience dictated. And that's true, literally true. For on every one of the 12 points AA as a whole had made up its collective mind long before 1946 when they were put into print. And Bill, who foresaw the need, merely felt the pulse, listened to the heartbeat, and put his findings down concerning those things which might someday affect the entire movement.”

ARCHIVES – CATHY R
No report given

GRAPEVINE – TERRY A
No report. given

CORRECTIONS - MARK R

My sincere thanks and gratitude to A.A. members in Area 35 Districts, and Groups, who are presently taking regular meetings into County Jails and Minnesota Correctional Facilities. Many hours are spent organizing meetings, working with jails to get volunteers approved, and managing rosters. It is a sincere privilege to work with all of these dedicated A.A. members.

Each week, I continue to look for A.A. members in Area 35 who would be willing to volunteer to be Temporary Contacts for men and women in custody in our Minnesota Correctional Facilities. As a CTCP OUTSIDE volunteer, you will correspond with A.A. Members still in custody (CTCP INSIDE requests). When released, bring them to A.A. meetings and help introduce them to the A.A. Fellowship in the area they are going to be released. This is just a Temporary Contact commitment, not a sponsor. We need more A.A. members to get involved in this very important and life-saving Twelfth Step work!

I attended the Area 35 Fall Assembly in Alexandria, MN October 5th and 6th. We had our largest attendance during the Corrections Action Chair Committee break-out session! God has sure Blessed us with so many wonderful District Corrections Chair, DCMs, and just regular A.A. members who so love and are surely guided by their Higher Power to be volunteers in A.A. Corrections Service Work!

We are nearing the end of the season for the MCF Transition Fairs. Mike U (Area 35 Literature Chair/District 6 Corrections Volunteer) and John K (Area 36 Corrections Volunteer) attended the MCF-Rush City Transition Fair on October 9, 2024. A large number of men stopped by the A.A. table, taking meeting cards, A.A. pamphlets, but most importantly, fill out CTCP INSIDE

Requests! There were 11 total requests filled out and handed back but there were about 20 others who were not sure where they were going and took forms with them! Once again, Mike U volunteered with Ricco R (Area 35, District 9 Corrections Chair) at the MCF-Willow River #2 Transition Fair on October 15, 2024. The turn out to get A.A. information and fill out CTCP-INSIDE request forms was awesome. There were 16 CTCP INSIDE requests filled out and given back! Again, there were about 15-20 men who took the forms back with them.. Jessica S (Area 35, District 7 DCM/Corrections Volunteer) will be attending the MCF-Shakopee Transition Fair on November 5th with Gail S (Area 36/MLPS Intergroup Manager). Then to close out the year, Craig H (Area 36 Corrections Chair) and Tracy Jo (Area 36, District 7 Corrections Chair) will attend the MCF-Stillwater Transition Fair. Thank you so much to all you wonderful volunteers who have helped make our A.A. presence at each MCF Transition Fair, not only a success, but also ensuring the Hand of A.A. was there!

I continue to be available to help our Area 35 District Corrections Chairs & DCMs with their respective Corrections opportunities. If you are a DCM or Corrections Chair and need help, please contact me.

Monthly, I Chair the Statewide Corrections Committee meetings on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Our next meeting is Wednesday, November 6, 2024 starting at 6:00pm via Zoom.

The 2024 SWCC Corrections Workshop is upon us – this Saturday, November 2nd from 9:30am-3:00pm at the Jack and Jim’s Event Center in Duelm, MN. It looks to be one of our best Workshops with two great speakers (Carl D, Castle Rock, CO & MCF-St Cloud Warden Jesse Pugh), an A.A. CTCP success story from our own Peggy M (Area 35, District 13 DCM), and a special CTCP presentation by Craig H (Area 36 Corrections Chair). Don’t miss out!

**God Bless you all,
Mark R**

Statewide Corrections Committee (SWCC) Chair Report

Our committee continues to work hard to promote A.A. Corrections Service Work throughout the State of Minnesota!

We have been working hard on the planning for our annual big event – the 2024 SWCC Corrections Workshop which will be this Saturday, November 2, 2024 at the Jack & Jim’s Event Center in Duelm, MN. We have not met since the Fall Assembly, and our next meeting is Wednesday, November 6, 2024.

GENERAL STATUS

2024 SWCC Corrections Workshop:

The Corrections Workshop is upon us – this Saturday, November 2nd from 9:30am-3:00pm at the Jack and Jim’s Event Center in Duelm, MN. It looks to be one of our best Workshops with two great speakers (Carl D, Castle Rock, CO & MCF-St Cloud Warden Jesse Pugh) in the morning. After the lunch buffet, we have a CTCP success story from our own Peggy M (Area 35, District 13 DCM), followed by a special CTCP presentation by Craig H (Area 36 Corrections Chair). We will round out the day with a Q&A session, so take notes throughout the day, write down some questions! All attendees will receive a folder with some very extensive handouts. These Handouts will also be posted by Terry P on the morning of the Workshop in PDF format under the CORRECTIONS tab on the area35.org website.

2024 DOC Transition Fairs:

There are only 2 remaining MCF Transition Fairs for 2024. Jessica S. (Area 35, District 7 DCM) and Gail S (Area 36 MLPS Intergroup Manager) will be volunteering for MCF-Shakopee November 5th. Craig H (Area 36 Corrections Chair) and Tracy Jo (Area 36, District 7 Corrections Chair) have volunteered for MCF-Stillwater.

Nominations for next rotation - SWCC Chair, Alternate Chair, and Secretary:

My rotation is up at the end of December 2024 as the SWCC Chair! We need A.A. members interested in Corrections Service Work to step up and put their names in to be the next SWCC Chair, Alt-Chair, and Secretary. We need to continue the great work this Committee has been doing the past four years. This is a great opportunity to be a Trusted Servant for Corrections Service work in Minnesota for A.A.!

The SWCC meets on the 1st Wednesday of each Month. Our next meeting is Wednesday, November 6, 2024

JOIN ZOOM MEETING Meeting ID: 816 0729 1607 Passcode: 261258

Very Humbled to Serve you,
Mark R

UPCOMING EVENTS

*See area35.org for printable flyers



INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

July 3-6, 2025 | Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

August 9, 2024

Dear A.A. Friends,

This is an exciting time in the planning of our 2025 International Convention. The **Registration and Housing Processes** will open on September 10, 2024, at Noon, Eastern Time. This memo includes information on the two ways to register and obtain housing, if needed.

ONLINE REGISTRATION AND HOUSING PROCESS

Attendees planning to register and book housing online through our vendor, Showcare, **should use the Online Registration and Housing Process**. In the online portal, attendees can register, as well as add on our exciting product offerings. Once the online registration is complete, attendees seeking housing will be guided to book an option.

Attendees can access the Online Registration and Housing Process via a link on our website at <https://www.aa.org/international-convention>. Additionally, the attached Registration Brochure is filed with information about the 2025 International Convention you want to review.

PRINT FORM REGISTRATION PROCESS

Due to security and privacy guidelines, we no longer allow attendees to provide their credit or debit card information on our Print Registration Form. The **Print Form Registration Process** will allow attendees to pay for the registration fee and our additional product offerings by **check or money order only**. If your print registration form arrives by mail to Showcare before registration opens, it will not be processed until September 10, 2024.

General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous
P.O. Box 459 | Grand Central Station | New York, NY 10163 USA | (212) 870-3400 | www.aa.org

HOW TO REQUEST HOUSING USING THE PRINT REGISTRATION FORM

In the **housing section** of the print registration form, attendees can indicate they want to "reserve housing." Individual members will be able to indicate a preferred housing dollar range and book up to two (2) rooms. We require attendees to provide a **valid email address** to complete the booking of a housing reservation. **You must have a credit card to reserve a hotel room.**

NOTE: YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER SHOULD INCLUDE THE TOTAL OF THE REGISTRATION FEE AND ALL SELECTED PRODUCT OFFERINGS. PLEASE DO NOT ADD IN A HOUSING DEPOSIT WITH YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER.

We will do our best to match you to your requested housing range, but if not available, we will search for a housing option at the closest available rate. A link to the housing system will be emailed to you with your confirmation so you may provide your **credit card information** to complete the reservation. Please read the entire **Print Registration Form** for all details regarding the process.

UNABLE TO ATTEND THE 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN PERSON? WE HAVE NEW OPTIONS FOR YOU TO PARTICIPATE.

You can use the Online Registration or Print Registration Form to:

- Register for a **Virtual Session Program Track**. This is a two-day 8 session virtual program track. The sessions will be live streamed as they are taking place and will not be available for purchase after the Convention. Cost is \$35 (USD).
- Purchase the **2025 International Convention Three Big Meetings Video Product**. It will be an anonymity-protected video recording available for viewing after the Convention is over. Cost is \$60 (USD)

Registration and housing questions? Call (514) 380-9375. Press 1 for English, press 2 for Spanish, press 3 for French, or email: 2025ic@showcare.com.

Warm regards,

Patrick C.
2025 International Convention Coordinator
2025ic@aa.org

General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous
P.O. Box 459 | Grand Central Station | New York, NY 10163 USA | (212) 870-3400 | www.aa.org

*** VOLUNTEER INVITATION ***

Join The A.A. Area 35/Area 36 Statewide Corrections Committee

Redemption

Reconciliation

Peace

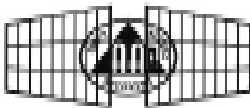
Support



FREEDOM

IT'S AN INSIDE JOB

- We meet to ensure consistency in our relationship with MN department of Corrections facilities, including participation in Transition Events for the purpose of Bridging the Gap.
- We work together to share our corrections service experience in an effort to offer solutions to each other and engage in creative problem solving.
- We focus on corrections topics of interest to enhance "Carrying the Message" to Inside Alcoholics/members of Alcoholics Anonymous.
- We plan an Annual Statewide Corrections Workshop for all interested A.A. members.
- Open to interest of past and present Corrections Trusted Servants. Open to any A.A. member interested!
- We "Carry the Message" to those most difficult to reach, those who are not free to attend meetings. Carrying the Message to whoever wants it, wherever they are.



CARE RESTORATION

COMPASSION SERENITY

Help Unlock the A.A. Message of Hope

We Will Know a New Freedom

We meet monthly on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM CST.
Microsoft Teams Meeting

[Click here to join the meeting](#) Meeting ID: 212 769 216 350 Passcode: Y9JqVU

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)



SCAN the QR Code to the right to go to the TEAMS Link



"A SPECIAL KIND OF A.A. SERVICE"

For more information, Please contact Mark R - SWCC Chair at one of the following:
correctionsmn@gmail.com, or corrections@area35.org

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers



WORKING TOGETHER,
INCREASING TRUST

2025 West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference
February 28–March 2

Best Western Downtown
123 West E Street
Casper, WY 82601
Phone: (307) 439-2074
ROOM BLOCK CUTOFF: 1/27/25
Room Rate: \$99
Room Block Name: West Central Regional
Register online at wcrasc2025.eventbrite.com or
mail registration to 2025 WCR – PO Box 846 – Casper, WY 82602
Registration Form: Please print clearly

Registration Chair: Saxton P: 307-441-0257
Registration Chair: David K: 307-259-5560
Email: wcrascreg@gmail.com

Preregistration must be received by 2/19/2025
Preregistration Fee: \$25
Registration after 2/19/25: \$30

Name: _____ Name on Badge: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Home Group: _____ District Represented: _____
Position: _____ Area Represented: _____

Check if you need the following interpretation:

☐ ASL ☐ Spanish

Payment Method: ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Event Brite

49th Annual Area 35 Service Workshop
“Working Together, Increasing Trust”

January 11th - 12th, 2025

Crookston Inn & Convention Center
2200 University Ave, Crookston, MN 56716

Room Rates: Two Queen Beds or One King Bed \$99.00 + tax per night
(Wi-Fi & continental breakfast included)

To make reservations please call: (218) 470-1000
Reserve Under: Area 35 Block Cut Off Date: December 11, 2025

Saturday, January 11
8:00 AM Workshop Registration
9:00 AM Workshop Convenes

Sunday, January 12
9:00 AM Workshop Continues



The Area 35 Service Workshop is designed to be educational and attended by any and all members of Alcoholics Anonymous inside and outside of Area 35. These workshops allow an opportunity to see what services are being provided in Northern Minnesota to better carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Several District in Northern Minnesota will be presenting and allowing for sharing on topics pertinent to Area 35 and Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. Please come and join us for this wonderful opportunity and weekend of Recovery, Unity and Service!

To strive toward the area action of making the Service Workshop self-supporting, there will be a registration fee of \$25.00.

District's 07 and 18 Present

12 STEP BIG BOOK STUDY

Speaker - Roger (Minneapolis)

AGENDA

Friday	Sunday
January 10th 6 PM - 9 PM	January 12th 10 AM - 12/1 PM
Saturday	Ask It Basket
January 11th 10 AM - 1 PM	
Lunch 1 PM - 2 PM	
Reconvene 2 PM - 6 PM	

Fort Ripley Town Hall

5190 Legend Ln. Fort Ripley, MN 56449

- Everyone interested in enriching their recovery and being of maximum service to God and those about us are welcome
- Coffee and doughnuts available
- Lunch will be Chicken with potluck please bring something to share
- Please contact Rich A at 320 - 412 - 0070 for further information or questions

For the good of A.A. as a whole these seem the things most needful to be done. If these projects are ever to be finished, I'm sure we can do little else. To succeed we shall need real freedom of decision and few diversions. Hence, we beg your whole-hearted cooperation.

Though these assignments are still before us, Dr. Bob and I are now going to confess a deep yearning. As private citizens of A.A., we shall

often wish to come and go among you like other people, without any special attention. And while we would like always to keep the wonderful satisfaction of having been among the originators, we hope you will begin to think of us as early A.A.s only, not as “founders.”

So, can't we join A.A., too?

As Ever,
Bill

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

2025 Service Events

Jan 11-12: Service Workshop
Crookston, MN

Feb 2: ACM Aitkin, MN

Feb 28-March 2: WCRAASC
Casper, WY

April 4-5: Spring Assembly
St. Cloud, MN

May 24: Joint Area 35/36 workshop
On Teams 11am to 2pm.

June 1: Area Committee Meeting
Aitkin, MN

August 3: Area Committee Meeting
Aitkin, MN

October 4-5: Fall Assembly
Ely, MN

Dec 7: ACM, Aitkin, MN

PLEASE POST

“But we
do have
expenses...”

When you “put money in the basket”
you support your group and A.A. worldwide.
You help make sure that:

- Your group gets meeting space
 - Phones get answered
- Alcoholic inmates get Big Books
- Professionals get correct information about A.A.
 - Loner A.A.s get letters
 - Newcomers get literature and meeting lists
- A.A.s around the globe share experience, strength and hope



Region, Country, World
“I want the hand of A.A. always to be there...”

GENERAL SERVICE BOARD OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, INC. • P.O. BOX 458 GRAND CENTRAL STATION, NEW YORK, NY 10163
(212) 512-3400 • FAX: (212) 512-3052 • www.aa.org

E-198-4/96 1M

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

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., July 1955, “What Is the Third Legacy?”, *The Language of the Heart*



Area 35
General Service Conference
Agenda Items Process

Greetings Area 35,

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

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

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

Thank you for your help.

Agenda
Deadline Dates

September 15th

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

February 15th

Delegate receives Agenda Items from the General Service Office and sends them along with background information to the Area 35 Webmaster.

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

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

NORTHERN LIGHT PRIMARY PURPOSE:

- The Northern Light (N.L.), is a general service newsletter that serves Area 35 to facilitate bilateral communication between the Groups, Districts, Area and G.S.O. levels in the Northern Minnesota area. Its purpose is to:
- ◆ Publish an informative and attractive newsletter to the Area in a timely fashion.
 - ◆ Encourage District reports and be available to work with Districts on communications. One or more of the N.L. Committee should try to attend area events to report on what’s happening in their areas. If they are unable to attend, encourage local members to write short articles about events and happenings to be published in the N.L.
 - ◆ Provide encouragement for writing articles, particularly to D.C.M.s and Area Action Committee Chairs. This should include the strong encouragement to submit their reports for each issue, if no report is submitted it will be stated, example “Northern Light Report - NOT GIVEN” this is currently being done in the Southern Minnesota Area newsletter.
 - ◆ Keep informed of activities and issues going on within Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. The N.L. Committee could subscribe to the Grapevine or other pertinent A.A. news sources.
 - ◆ Gather useful service information to publish from sources within the Area, Region and A.A. as a whole. Obtain, read and use other Area newsletters.
 - ◆ Listen to comments from the Area on the content of the N.L.

EDITORIAL POSITION & N.L. COMMITTEE:

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

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

N.L. COMMITTEE: The N.L. Committee consists of the Area Group Records Chair, Area Webmaster and Area Audio Technician along with two D.C.M.s in Area 35. DCM’s are picked randomly at the start of each rotation and serve on a two-year rotation basis. They assist the editor in communications with other area newsletters, in recommendations on general improvements, and with general problems and implementations of new policies. They may also represent the editor at functions when the editor is unable to attend.

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

NORTHERN LIGHT SUBMISSIONS:

General submissions are welcome! Feel free to send letters or articles that are pertinent to AA and Area 35. All submissions will be approved by the Northern Light committee, in accordance with Tradition Two; For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern. Please note that if space is limited, first priority will be given to reports from Area Officers, Area Standing Committee Chairs and D.C.M.s from Area 35.

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

All submissions should have a title. Please include the first name, last initial and city where the author is from. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted. If you have any questions regarding submitting an item for the *Northern Light*, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you!

Northern Light Editor, Jennifer T.

Directions for Inserting a Flier into the Northern Light

1. First & foremost, **contact the Northern Light Editor** at northernlight@area35.org or call the phone number listed on page 3 of the print version of the Northern Light, for the Northern Light Editor (remember this will change every 2 year rotation).

2. Email a .pdf version of your flier to northernlight@area35.org for approval. Upon approval a copy will be forwarded to the webmaster to be placed on the Area 35 websites calendar of events.

3. Upon approval mail to :

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

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

4. **OR** if you wish to have Cold Spring Record print your fliers to be inserted into the Northern Light. The NL Editor will forward a copy of the pdf flier to Cold Spring Record, along with your printing instructions (paper color, one or two sided printing). Currently there are **1000 copies printed with 750 pieces to mail**. What is not mailed is passed out at the Area meetings and assemblies. **A \$20.00 fee will be added for a submission larger than 8 1/2 x 11.**

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!!!

Number of Copies	Printing Costs		Insertion Fee	Total Cost
	1 Sided	2 Sided		
750	\$ 68	\$ 90	\$ 30	\$ 98/120
1000	\$ 90	\$ 120	\$ 30	\$ 120/150

RELATED FLIER INSERTION INFORMATION

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

Northern Light Deadlines for 2025 are as Follows:

- ◆ January 1, 2024 : Flier will be included in the January/February Issue
- ◆ February 28, 2025: Flier will be included in the March/April Issue
- ◆ May 2 , 2025: Flier will be included in the May/June Issue
- ◆ June 29, 2025: Flier will be included in the July/August Issue
- ◆ August 31, 2025: Flier will be included in the September/October Issue
- ◆ October 31, 2025: Flier will be included in the November/December Issue

Area 35 Event Flyer Guidelines

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

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

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

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

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

Acronyms

(Spaghetti Soup)

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

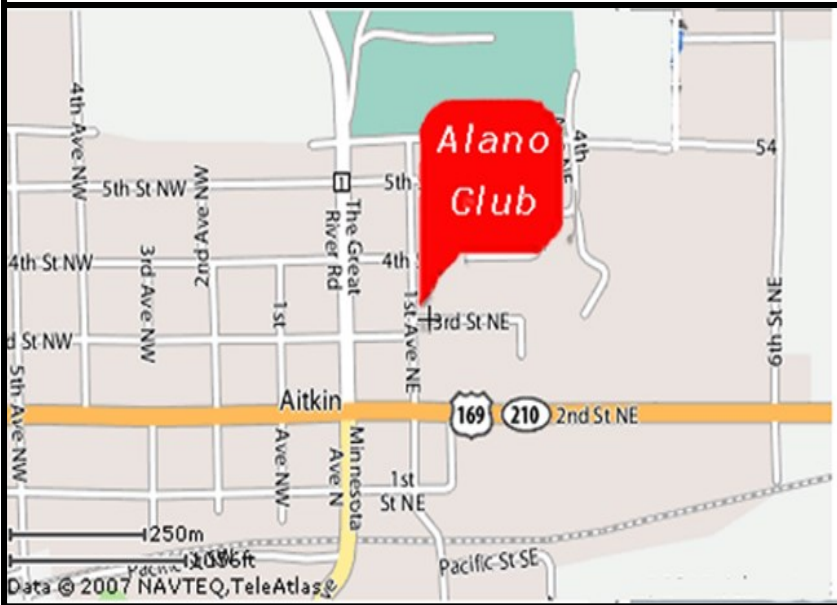
AREA 35 EVENTS
INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

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

AREA 35
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Where is the Aitkin Alano Club?

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



Volume XLII Issue 6

Nov/Dec 2024

NORTHERN LIGHT

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Created 1982

Page 19

OUR PAST DELEGATES

<div>Panel 722022-2023</div> <div>Steven L</div>	<div>Panel 401990-1991</div> <div>Bob J</div>	<div>Panel 141964-1965</div> <div>Donald F (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 702020-2021</div> <div>Jim S</div>	<div>Panel 381988-1989</div> <div>Scott J</div>	<div>Panel 121962-1963</div> <div>Donna T (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 682018-2019</div> <div>Christine G</div>	<div>Panel 361986-1987</div> <div>Louie H</div>	<div>Panel 101960-1961</div> <div>Bob B (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 662016-2017</div> <div>Kelly D</div>	<div>Panel 341984-1985</div> <div>Bob Picard (deceased)</div>	<div>Panel 81958-1959</div> <div>Pearl N (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 642014-2015</div> <div>Michael J</div>	<div>Panel 321982-1983</div> <div>Tom L (deceased)</div>	<div>Panel 61956-1957</div> <div>Waldo H (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 622012-2013</div> <div>Jim K</div>	<div>Panel 301980-1981</div> <div>Don M (deceased)</div>	<div>Panel 41954-1955</div> <div>Wendell H (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 602010-2011</div> <div>Jon C</div>	<div>Panel 281978-1979</div> <div>Garfield S (deceased)</div>	<div>Panel 21952-1953</div> <div>Arthur R (deceased)</div>	
<div>Panel 582008-2009</div> <div>JoAnne N</div>	<div>Panel 261976-1977</div> <div>Vern R (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 562006-2007</div> <div>Jerry S</div>	<div>Panel 241974-1975</div> <div>Gordon H (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 542004-2005</div> <div>Charlie C</div>	<div>Panel 221972-1973</div> <div>Frank J (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 522002-2003</div> <div>Tim C</div>	<div>Panel 201970-1971</div> <div>Clarence B (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 502000-2001</div> <div>Tom A</div>	<div>Panel 181968-1969</div> <div>Dave Harvey (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 481998-1999</div> <div>Susie A</div>	<div>Panel 161966-1967</div> <div>Arno Adams (deceased)</div>		
<div>Panel 461996-1997</div> <div>Bill P (deceased)</div>			
<div>Panel 441994-1995</div> <div>Bruce B</div>			
<div>Panel 421992-1993</div> <div>Greg G (deceased)</div>			

Q: Why list our past Delegates?

A: They are a resource to you!

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

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

AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETING

Agenda
Aitkin, MN
June 2, 2024

<div><div><div>_____ 9:00 A.M. Action Chair Committee Meetings (9:30 a.m. Financial Oversight Committee)</div><div>_____ 10:30 A.M. Area Committee Meeting</div><div>_____ Call to Order Open with the Serenity Prayer</div><div>_____ Recognize Past Delegates</div><div>_____ Add to Agenda</div><div>_____ Approve Minutes from February 4 ACM</div><div>OFFICER REPORTS</div><div>_____ Delegate – Diane R</div><div>_____ Alternate Delegate – Pat M</div><div>_____ Chair – Vicki R</div><div>_____ Secretary – Denise R</div><div>_____ Treasurer – Heidi B</div><div>COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS</div><div>_____ Financial Oversight Committee- Scott A</div><div>_____ District 7 – Jessical S</div><div>_____ WEBMASTER – Terry P</div><div>_____ NORTHERN LIGHT – Jennifer T</div><div>_____ GROUP RECORDS – Phyllis K</div><div>_____ District 2 – Kim Brousseau</div><div>_____ District 11 – Kathy M</div><div>_____ LITERATURE – Mike U</div><div>_____ District 8 – John J</div><div>_____ District 15 – Fred T</div><div>_____ PUBLIC INFORMATION – Randy A</div><div>_____ District 1 - Loren G</div><div>_____ District 21 – Jeri S</div><div>_____ TREATMENT – Kyle H</div><div>_____ District 5 – Chad O</div><div>_____ District 14 -</div><div>_____ CPC – Mary S</div><div>_____ District 6 – Julie N</div><div>_____ District 9 – Tom T</div><div>_____ ARCHIVES – Kathy R</div><div>_____ ARCHIVIST – Marc N</div><div>_____ District 4 – Jim T</div><div>_____ District 18 – Steve T</div></div></div> <div><div><div>_____ GRAPEVINE – Terry A</div><div>_____ District 12 – Richard G</div><div>_____ District 16 – Dave C</div><div>_____ CORRECTIONS – Mark R</div><div>_____ Statewide Corrections – Corrections</div><div>_____ District 3 – Melvin S</div><div>_____ District 13 – Peggy M</div><div>12:00 P.M. Lunch</div><div>12:45 P.M. Reconvene</div><div>OLD BUSINESS</div><div>_____ Ad-hoc committee updates:(if the committee has one)</div><div>_____</div><div>_____</div><div>_____</div><div>_____</div><div>_____</div><div>NEW BUSINESS:</div><div>_____ Discussion of digital archives and archives display on our website</div><div>_____ Draft fiscal policy</div><div>_____</div><div>_____</div><div>_____</div><div>_____</div><div>_____ Calendar of Events</div><div>_____ Adjourn - responsibility statement</div></div></div>

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