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Deadline for the next Northern Light is April 30th, 2025

This is **YOUR** Newsletter Area 35

Ada, Aitkin, Akeley, Alango, Albany, Alexandria, Audubon, Aurora, Avon, Babbitt, Backus, Badger, Bagley, Barnesville, Barnum, Battle Lake, Baudette, Baxter, Beaver Bay, Becker, Bemidji, Bethel, Big Lake, Biwabik, Blackduck, Bowstring, Boy River, Braham, Brainerd, Brimson, Brookston, Browerville, Browns Valley, Cambridge, Carlos, Cass Lake, Chisholm, Clarissa, Cloquet, Cohasset, Cold Spring, Cook, Cormorant, Cotton, Crookston, Cross Lake, Debs, Deer Creek, Deer River, Detroit Lakes, Dilworth, Duluth, Eagle Bend, Effie, Elbow, Lake, Elizabeth, Elk River, Ely, Erhard, Erskine, Esko, Evansville, Eveleth, Fergus Falls, Fertile, Finland, Finlayson, Floodwood, Foley, Forest Lake, Fort Ripley, Fosston, Foxborro, Frazee, Fredenberg, Garrison, Gilbert, Glenwood, Goodland, Grand Marais, Grand Portage, Grand Rapids, Grasston, Grygla, Hallock, Halma, Harris, Hawley, Henning, Henriette, Herman, Hermantown, Hibbing, Hill City, Hinckley, Holdingford, Hoyt Lakes, International Falls, Ironton, Isanti, Isle, Keewatin, Kelly Lake, Kensington, Kimball, Knife River, Lake Henry, Lake Lena, Lake Park, Lawrence Lake, Little Falls, Littlefork, Long Prairie, Longville, Lutsen, Mahnomen, Mahtowa, Malmo, McGregor, Melrose, Menahga, Middle River, Milaca, Moorhead, Moose Lake, Mora, Morris, Motley, Mountain Iron, Nashwauk, Naytahwaush, Nett Lake, Nisswa, North Branch, Ogilvie, Onigum, Orr, Osage, Osakis, Otsego, Otfertail, Palisade, Palo, Park Rapids, Parkers Prairie, Paynesville, Pelican Rapids, Pequot Lakes, Perham, Pierz, Pike, Pike Lake, Pillager, Pine City, Pine River, Princeton, Proctor, Quamba, Rainy River, Red Lake, Red Lake Falls, Remer, Rice, Richmond, Rock Creek, Roseau, Rush City, Sandstone, Sartell, Sauk Centre, Sauk Rapids, Sawyer, Shevlin, Side Lake, Silver Bay, Solway, Squaw Lake, St. Cloud, St. Francis, St. Joseph, St. Stephen, Stacy, Staples, Stephen, Superior, Thief River Falls, Toivola, Tower, Twin Valley, Two Harbors, Underwood, Verndale, Virginia, Wadena, Wahkon, Waite Park, Walker, Warren, Warren, Warrend, Watkins, Wau

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

Send articles and comments for publication to northernlight@area35.org

Don't forget to visit and bookmark your Area 35 web site! - http://area35.org

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2024-25 AREA 35 COMMITTEE

GRAPEVINE AREA OFFICERS **DISTRICT 5** Terry A Chad O dcm21@area35.org grapevine@area35.org **DELEGATE** dcm5@area35.org Diane R **GROUP RECORDS** delegate@area35.org **DISTRICT 6** Phyllis K grouprecords@area35.org **ALT DELEGATE** dcm6@area35.org **LITERATURE** alt delegate@area35.org **DISTRICT 7** Mike U Jessica S literature@area35.org AREA CHAIR dcm7@area35.org Vicki R areachair@area35.org **DISTRICT 8 NORTHERN LIGHT** John J Jennifer T **TREASURER** northernlight@area35.org dcm8@area35.org Heidi B treasurer@area35.org **PUBLIC INFORMATION DISTRICT 9** Randy A Tom T **SECRETARY** pi@area35.org dcm9@area35.org Denise R secretary@area35.org **TREATMENT** DISTRICT 11 Kyle H Kathy M treatment@area35.org dcm11@area35.org AREA COMMITTEE WEBMASTER **CHAIRS DISTRICT 12** Terry P Richard G webmaster@area35.org **ARCHIVES** dcm12@area35.org Cathy R archives@area35.org (D.C.M.'s) DISTRICT **DISTRICT 13 ARCHIVIST COMMITTEE** Margaret M Marc N **MEMBERS** archivist@area35.org dcm13@area35.org **DISTRICT 1 DISTRICT 14** Loren G No information dcm1@area35.org AUDIO ENGINEER dcm14@area35.org Aaron A **DISTRICT 2** (CPC) COOPERATION **DISTRICT 15** Kim B WITH THE PROFESSION-Fred T dcm2@area35.org AL COMMUNITY dcm15@area35.org cpc@area35.org **DISTRICT 16 DISTRICT 3 CORRECTIONS** Melvin S Dave C Mark R dcm3@area35.org dcm16@area35.org corrections@area35.org **DISTRICT 17** FINANCIAL OVER-SIGHT COMMITTEE No information **DISTRICT 4** dcm17@area35.org

TABLE

DISTRICT 18

dcm18@area35.org

Steve T

Regular Articles

Jay B

cm4@area35.org

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The Northern Light is a confidential document, meant only for AA members. It contains members' full names and addresses. This usage does not in any way violate our Tradition of anonymity to the public communications media. Names, phone numbers, addresses, and email addresses may not be used for any solicitation purposes. The articles and opinions expressed herein are strictly the personal opinions of those expressing them.

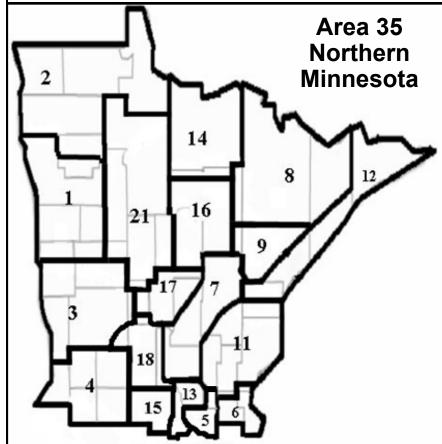
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Zone I

District 1 - Ada, Crookston, Erskine, Fertile, Fosston, Mahnomen, Naytahwaush, Red Lake Falls, Twin Valley, Waubun,

District 2 - Badger, Baudette, Halma, Middle River, Roseau, Stephen, Thief River Falls, Warren, Warroad, Williams

District 16 - Big Fork, Bowstring, Boy River, Cohasset, Deer River, Grand Rapids, Goodland, Hill City, Lawrence Lake*, Longville, Remer

District 21 - Akeley, Bagley, Bemidji, Blackduck, Cass Lake, Debs, Menahga, Onigum, Park Rapids, Red Lake, Shevlin, Solway, Squaw Lake, Walker

Zone II

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

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

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

Zone III

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Zone IV

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

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

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

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

District Meeting Location Information

District 1

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

District 2

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

District 3

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

District 4

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

District 5

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

District 6

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

District 7

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

District 8

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

District 9

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

District 11

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

District 12

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

District 13

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

District 14

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

District 15

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

District 16

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

District 17

Not currently active or unknown

District 18

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

District 21

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

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

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AREA 35 MEETING MINUTES - UNAPPROVED

Area 35 February 2025 ACM Minutes Aitkin, MN February 2, 2025

Call to Order: Area Chair Vicki R called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday February 2, 2025, opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Recognition of Past Delegates In Attendance: Scott A. Area 36 Panel

Additions to agenda: January Service Workshop Evaluations **Points of order**:

Two-minute limit for sharing at the mic.

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

Avoid crosstalk as it makes it hard to hear.

When speaking or asking questions, go to the mic.

Approval of December 2024 ACM Minutes: December minutes revised to add the Public Information Report that was overlooked when preparing the Unapproved Minutes- Randy A. motioned to approve the minutes, Mark R. seconded, MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE - DIANE R.

Good Morning, I am Diane R., and I am your Area 35 Delegate and an alcoholic

Happy Ground Hog's Day. I hope he does not see his shadow.

Thank you to Pat M, Alternate Delegate, for organizing an interesting and informative Winter Workshop in Crookston. All presentations were well thought out and informative for all levels of service. Thank you to all the districts for your presentations covering a wide range of subjects. I enjoyed them all

My takeaways were:

- · We have a lot of groups, district, and area expenses including keeping the doors open.
- · A General Service Representative key role is to stay connected with Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.
- · What we want from leadership is the truth and not half-truths.
- · Business meetings are crucial for keeping the group informed and ensuring a collective group conscience.
- · Singleness of purpose is still important and talked about in Traditions 1, 3, 4, 5, and 10.
- · Healthy groups take group inventories and there are examples available. There is a Traditions Checklist available from AA Grapevine.
- \cdot A loving God is expressed in our group conscience. We can destroy Alcoholics Anonymous from within.
- · We entrust our trusted servants so they can just do it. There is no permanent fix to the service structure. Invite others to serve.

It was so nice to meet our West Central Regional Trustee, Charlie H. Charlie shared his story of how he came to Alcoholics Anonymous. His story was not only insightful but also filled with humor, making it relatable and engaging those present. Charlie emphasized the importance of not getting upset over controversies and reminded us of the work we have ahead. He also highlighted the roles of the Class A Trustees and their dedication to helping us carry the message to those still suffering from alcoholism. If anyone wants to reach out to Charlie, he mentioned that he is always available for a chat or correspondence. Charlie also talked about the importance of unity throughout our structure.

I attended the Area 35 PI/CPC Workshop on January 25, 2025, in Brainerd, MN. Thank you, Randy A., Mary S., and the PI/CPC Committee for organizing a wonderful workshop filled with valuable information. They talked about Beginner's Meetings, What A.A. Does and Does Not Do, setting aside our egos for the good of A.A., the importance of our traditions, and personal stories of how professionals help us to get to A.A.

As the next General Service Conference approaches, the Final Conference Agenda Items and Background information will be released starting February 17, 2025. Last year they came out gradually. You can access the background information on the Area35.org website at the General Service Conference. Please remember that this information is confidential as it may contain anonymity-protected names. The password will be provided verbally and will not be included in any report. You can obtain the password from your DCM or from me by calling or emailing or delegate@area35.org. Files can be downloaded to your computer. If you have any questions on how to do this, please contact me.

In March, following the West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference (WCRAASC), I will be available to visit your district or district meeting to discuss the Conference Agenda Items. Please reach out to me to arrange a discussion, ensuring that the groups in your district are well-informed for the Spring Assembly. During the Spring Assembly, a group conscience vote will be taken on the Conference Agenda Items, which I will then present at the General Service Conference.

Breakout session of the WCRAASC will be

- · What Does Three Legacy Sponsorship Look Like?
- · Relevance of the Twelve Traditions Past and Present
- · Principle of Rotation Developing Leaders
- · What does it mean to 'Trust Your Trusted Servants'?

Conference Committee Background information will be available between February 17-21, 2025. Final Conference Agenda Item List will be available between February 17-25, 2025. The General Service Conference this year is April 27,2025 to May 3, 2025, at the New York Hilton Midtown New York. The theme is "Working Together, Increasing Trust."

West Central Regional Forum save the date is out. It will be held in Omaha NE from September 19-21, 2025.

In 2027, Area 35 will host the WCRAASC and the West Central Regional Forum. If you believe your district has a suitable venue to host either event, please let me know so I can investigate it. The WCRAASC will be held from March 5-7, 2027.

<u>ALTERNATE DELEGATE – PAT M.</u>

Hello area 35 Pat M. your alternate delegate

So, what have I been up to since the winter workshop? I've been attending the West Central delegates meetings, with our delegate Diane, as an observer, which sometimes is hard to do. I have learned to sit back in AA and listen. That's how I learn. I've been working on the 2026 50th anniversary winter workshop. I believe I have a venue, the dates are January 17th and 18th 2026. I have a guest speaker-waiting for some more details from the venue. I will let you all know at the June Aiken committee meeting, the details, and hopefully have a flyer. I will let you know who the speaker is.

I had to privilege of attending the public information cooperation with the professional community workshop on January 25th. Randy and Mary put together a great workshop. My takeaway at this was one of our past delegates sharing on anonymity, not to fall into that trap, just because you don't mention AA, doesn't mean you're not breaking anonymity. It's a spiritual foundation of all our traditions, something to keep in mind.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as YOUR Alternate Delegate, Pat M

CHAIR – VICKI R.

Since Dec ACM I have prepared the Feb ACM agenda for our meeting. I attended the PI/PCP workshop in Brainerd on Jan 25 from 11-3. They did a great job, and all the presentations were interesting.

The Area Officers met by Teams to discuss the draft Statement of Financial Responsibility and outline the procedures for the FOC

We will have a GSR training on Teams on Feb 15 from 9am-12pm. More information to follow.

In grateful service, Vicki R

SECRETARY – DENISE R.

Hello Area, 35,

I attended the January Workshop in Crookston MN and enjoyed meeting our West Central Regional Trustee Charlie as well as listening to all the presenters. Everyone did a fantastic job and there were great discussions. As a reminder there will not be any minutes to prepare for the January Workshop as there was no official Area business conducted. As most of you that attended know, the drive home on Sunday was a bit hectic. I wrote an article for the next Northern Light printing with some of my thoughts as I reflected on the weekend.

During the Workshop, the Ad hoc Committee reviewed the Guidelines, met during lunch, and we met again yesterday virtually. I will present some of our conclusions to date to the Area Committee. While there is still work to do, we have solidified some guidelines to be presented to the Area Assembly for approval if needed.

I also attended the CPC/PI Workshop in Brainerd and enjoyed it very much. There was a lot of great information presented and discussed. Thank you to Randy and Mary for putting this together!

Please send your reports to me by next Sunday, February 9th.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Denise R.

TREASURER – HEIDI B.

Hello Area, 35 -

I'm sorry I wasn't able to attend the ACM. Here's a quick look at the January financials.

I attended the Service Workshop in January and was really impressed with the presentations, as always. Thank you to the districts for your time and energy in putting them together.

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Income:	<u>January</u>
Contributions	\$5,197.83
Birthday, Special	\$80
Literature	\$0
Grapevine	\$111
Other	<u>\$ 2311</u>
Total Income:	\$7,699.83
Expenses:	
Events	\$ 3,258.48
Literature	\$ 0
Grapevine	\$173.39
Other Expense	\$ 4,633.52
Total Expense:	\$8,065.39
Net Profit:	-\$365.56

Please include your group name and number when sending me your contributions so that I can credit the proper group. A group name is not enough. Many groups have the same name and checks arrive from home addresses with no known group in the city listed on check and no phone number for following up. If you don't know your group number, please contact Phyllis at grouprecords@area35.org or myself at treasurer@area35.org.

Thank you for allowing me to serve! Heidi

COMMITTEE CHAIR & DCM REPORTS

FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE - SCOTT A.

We reviewed the updated Area 35 Financial Audit Procedure and agreed with the context of it. It's a good job description for our committee.

Scott A

WEBMASTER – TERRY P.

Hello and sorry for the delay,

First off, apologies for the recent absences due to a frustrating round of illnesses and one great event. For those wondering I was not at the workshop because my daughter was overdue with my second granddaughter, and I had responsibilities attached to the big day. Mainly I was responsible for the OG (Original Granddaughter) while they were in the hospital. As it turns out she was born the Saturday night of the workshop, so it turned out to be a good move.

Over the last couple of months there have been a few things going on. We hosted the online presence for the SW corrections workshop, several calendar updates, and some minor updates. My plan is to get the how-to sessions back on the calendar for March, please watch for the invite and join if you can. We have been discussing some updates to the downloads section of the site. This may be a good topic for the ad-hoc technology committee to make some recommendations on. Have had some discussions with Marc about how we might provide some visibility to the wealth of information available in archives, without creating anonymity issues. Marc will be talking more about this later. We will be recycling 3 computers that have outlived their usefulness, because they can no longer be updated or charged. Looking forward to year 2 working with all of you to carry the message.

Yours in service, Terry

<u>NORTHERN LIGHT – JENNIFER T.</u>

Hello family,

I continue to request and appreciate submissions from you for your newsletter.

In service, Jennifer

DISTRICT 3 – MELVIN S.

District 3 meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month at noon in Perham, MN.

At the January 19th meeting, I didn't attend due to family business, but Paul C, our alternate, drove the bus. It was about –20 so not many braved the cold. District 3 is still making commitments with treatment centers and county jail meetings. We also did our presentation at the Area workshop in Crookston. Thanks again to Becky A and Marlene of Detroit Lakes.

On a sad note, one of the district's long-time meetings has closed. This group tried to do all it could to stay open. The Moorhead Thursday Night group had been going since the mid 1960's and had been an important part in District 3, providing past DCM's and committee chairs, leading an example for us all.

In Service, Melvin S.

GROUP RECORDS – PHYLLIS K.

In 2024.

All groups at Fellowship Connection were checked and UNKNOWNS solved.

The groups on the Meeting Guide are now reconciled with Fellowship Connection and are active and registered there. The number for your group is on the page when you click the title of your group open.

The mailing list has been checked against 2024 records. There are 2-3 people correctly on the list who are not receiving their Northern Light. We continue to track these problems and try to solve them. We had 81-82 undeliverable(s) returned for the Northern Light and they are now \$.90 each. I signed up for monthly registrar meetings at GSO.

Since last report we have had:

8 GSR or Contact Persons added and 2 removed 3 meetings added to the Meeting Guide and 1 removed 4 added to the mailing list and 1 removed for the Northern Light No DCM changes 2 New Groups registered 4 Group Changes-2 groups folded, 2 changed names and 1 changed time, and 1 changed day Help Calls: 0

I am grateful for sobriety and all AA groups! Phyllis K

DISTRICT 16 – DAVE C.

No report. Not present

LITERATURE – MIKE U.

Greetings everyone, I'm Mike U. your area 35 Literature chair.

Not much has been going on, book sales are strong. I attended the workshop in Crookston and it was a very good experience. The District did a great job on their presentations. I have also been working, bringing meetings to the Rush city prison and Thursday night jail meeting in Isanti county. I will be attending the Big O Round up March 14th-16th. It is a great event, and I will be attending the Stearns county Roundup March 22nd and looking forward to the spring assembly.

Wishing everyone well and thanks for letting me serve, Mike U.

DISTRICT 12 – RICHARD G.

Report provided by Terry A. Active PI/CPC- Veterans Outreach is very active – Federal Prison will be closing in Duluth.

Increase in attendance of new people and some long timers are fading away. Working with our Intergroup updating our Meeting Directory.

DISTRICT 5 - CHAD O.

Hello All, Chad O. District 5 DCM.

District 5 meets on the 3rd Monday of each month, we meet at 7pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Princeton, MN. Our treatment chair had to step down, however, we were able to quickly fill the spot, and our corrections chair was able to fill the void in the interim, so we didn't skip a beat. Thank you, Brian B., for volunteering for the treatment chair and Carter L. our corrections chair for once again filling the void. District 5 continues to bring a meeting into the Nystroms treatment facility every Monday night, with our calendar of volunteers filled through March. We also bring a meeting into the Sherburne County jail on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month, both men's and women's meetings. District 5 also brings a meeting into the Mille Lacs County jail every Tuesday night. District 5 will be doing a District inventory in March, this will take place an hour before our regularly scheduled meeting, inventory questions were passed out at our January meeting. Due to the spirit of rotation, we have a few new GSR's in the district, they were warmly welcomed, and many have offered their help in moving forward. It will be awesome to watch them grow in service, who knows where they will end up? We are growing a future delegate for area 35! I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the spring assembly coming up in April, in St. Cloud.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your District 5 DCM. Chad O.

<u>PUBLIC INFORMATION – RANDY A.</u>

Greetings Area 35,

We had our PI/CPC workshop last week in Brainerd. We had 25-30 in attendance. The presenters did an excellent job, some did PowerPoint, we had one cancellation due to illness, the CPC chair and PI chair filled in the vacant slot. There were good questions/answers from the members present. A special Thank you to District 7 for hosting the event and to all the others in attendance The total expense was \$ 272.92 and \$ 148.00 in income was returned for total workshop expenses of \$124.92 There was a potluck lunch and no expense for meals. A big thank you to those who brought and prepared food as it was plentiful and appetizing. It is of prime importance for the PI /CPC to put on a workshop in the Area and let the members know what it is we is exactly do, how to carry the message to the public and what AA is and isn't and how vital our Traditions our when doing service work. We also attended a District 9 meeting in Hibbing the next day and did a presentation to the district along with the CPC Chair. There were some very pertinent questions and how to go about putting on a PI/CPC Luncheon. The Group conscience is vital to any group when making decisions that involve the pub-

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lic and in carrying the message. There is a new podcast from GSO called "Our primary Purpose" The podcast offers listeners a look at how GSO supports AA groups and members in their efforts to carry the message. We had also sent a flyer and information to the PI Information coordinator at GSO telling them about our workshop and what we were doing. They requested a response regarding how we did in which I had sent them a detailed response. They told us that it would be a great resource for other Areas looking to put on a similar event. If any districts or groups would like PI information or a presentation, please feel to contact me as I would be able to visit your district or group. There is an upcoming Minnesota rural health conference at the DECC in Duluth on June 9-10, 2025, and a health & Human service conference October 8-9 in which we will be contacting and inquiring about setting up an information booth for both PI and/or CPC.

Randy A.

DISTRICT 2 - KIM B.

DISTRICT 4 – JIM T.
Not Present
TREATMENT – KYLE H.
Present- Verbal Report

DISTRICT 6 – JULIE N.

What's up in District 6?

Our District attended the workshop in Crookston, Minnesota. We put a skit on how we address the new financial reality facing our spiritual movement. This moment currently is the most important. Meaning find a home group that practices the principles and traditions in their meetings. When attending your home group, we need to know where your dollar goes. Asking yourself does this match up with your moral values and group purpose. We and District 6 are focusing on one home group and putting \$20 in the basket so we can help AA as a whole and keep the doors open for our future generations. This past workshop was probably the best workshop. We all got a lot out of it.

I also attended the PI and CPC workshop held in Brainerd. I would like to thank all the people that put this on as well as the speakers.

We have a few chair positions open as of right now. I am out at meetings that are on the meeting app that don't have group numbers. I am on a mission to find the right person for our open positions. God will provide in his time. I will have our alternate DCM attend West Central in person. I will be attending online. I can't wait for the experience of hybrid. I will be asking Diane and Pat to report back after West Central. Thank you. Everyone in my life has gone before me and has taught me so much.

Thank you, Julie N.

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. Our Alt DCM, Marc N., attended the Service Workshop in Crookston. Huge thanks to Marc, who went to the workshop in my place without a moment's hesitation. He reported back to us that it was an excellent workshop, he brought back some great information. District 7 has also been working with District 18 on a Big Book Study at the Fort Ripley Town Hall on the weekend of January 10, 11 & 12. I have been told that it went well, we will get a final report this month at our district meeting. On January 25th, the Area CPC/PI held a workshop in Brainerd. I got a report that the workshop went well also, there was a good turn out and the presenters did a great job. There was some discussion again at our last district meeting, at the request of a GSR, about Area 35 stepping out of their role in the MN State Fair AA Booth. That same GSR expressed their group's concerns on the Area taking the Intergroup Links from our website. Past Delegate Jim Kath has agreed to facilitate a District Inventory for us, we plan to do that in March or April of this year. We also discussed hosting a Sponsorship Workshop in District 7, a motion was made to put time and money towards this so we will start putting this together.

Our CPC/PI Chair, Chris, continues to distribute pocket cards that read "If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to quit, that's ours" with our District 7 AA Phone Line. These cards are going to bus stops, police stations, hospitals, pharmacies and other practical public places where there are bulletin boards. He has been getting pamphlets distributed to professionals in the communities as well. Our Grapevine/Literature Chair, Mike, reported that book sales were up in the last couple of months. Mike also takes care of our phone hotline and reported that we had a few calls. District7online.org has been kept up to date by Bob & I have been very grateful for his help with that process. I do plan to attend the West Central Regional Service Conference in Casper, WY, at the end of February, our Alternate DCM & a couple of GSRs will be carpooling with me.

I am very much looking forward to this! I also plan to attend Spring Assembly in St. Cloud in April. See you there!

CPC – Mary S.

Good Morning (or afternoon) -

I attended the AA Workshop in Crookston in January.

On Saturday, January 25, 2025, I participated in the P.I./C.P.C Workshop which was held at the First Congregational Church in Brainerd, MN. The speakers were Jim K. (Past Area 35 Delegate), Scott N. (Past District 6 P.I./C.P.C Chair), Randy A. (P.I. Area 35 Committee Chair), Myself, Chad H. (Past District 13 P.I. Chair) and Charlie C. (Past Area 35 Delegate).

The Workshop covered the following topics:

- 1. What AA is and isn't
- 2. Speaking at Non-AA Meetings
- 3. Tradition 6 Anonymity
- 4. Anonymity as a Spiritual Message
- 5. Sacrifice and Survival
- 6. PI/CPC Workshops and Luncheons
- 7. Tradition 5 How it relates to Concept 1
- 8. PSA's, Videos and Websites

The Workshop was informative and well attended.

On Sunday, January 26, I presented Cooperation with the Professional Community in Hibbing at the District 9 monthly meeting. I enjoyed meeting with the District 9 GSR's and listening to the activities they have done and are doing in District 9.

Having a conversation with the Professionals who work with Alcoholics in your District can result in positive outcomes and is worth the effort, it can literally save lives! I believe the Professionals in your District will appreciate your efforts.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 35. Mary S.

DISTRICT 18 - STEVE T.

Present- Verbal Report

DISTRICT 15 -FRED T.

My name is Fred DCM District 15.

We meet the 1st Monday of the month at the Albany Senior Center at 7:00pm. Dean D. from Avon has volunteered to be the Alt-DCM and was voted in at the January meeting. Together we have been able to attend all but one of the meetings in the district before the end of 2024. Time to start again. I did attend the Area 35 Workshop in Crookston along with our Grapevine chair Erica. Lots of great information to relate to the district.

The Stearns County Roundup, which the district puts on, will be held at the River of Life Church on March 22 starting at 5:00pm. Tickets are \$15 pre and \$20 at the door. Tanya D. from Brainerd MN will be the Alanon speaker and Ray F. from Alexandria MN will be the AA speaker. I have invited Mike U Area Literature chair and Terry A. Area Grapevine chair to attend the one-night event.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Fred

ARCHIVIST - MARC N.

Julie's "WHHOOO" has been pirated by advertisers on old people television!

Three people requested and received copies of Charlie H's talks at Service Conference. These were AA members, so anonymity was not an issue. In the transfer of cassette tapes to mp3 format I have recently come across a series of tapes recorded by District 15. Some were radio shows; some were school presentations. These were done in early 90's. A while ago I found several oral stories that were written by people in District 4 in the late 80's/early 90's.

It would be a good thing to get more of our history recorded, each of you are making history every day.

Marc, Alcoholic and your Archivist.

ARCHIVES - CATHY R.

Not Present

<u>DISTRICT 11 – KATHY M.</u>

Not present

DISTRICT 14 –

No DCM

<u>GRAPEVINE – TERRY A.</u>

Grapevine will be present at: big ole' roundup March 14-16th, Stearns county roundup March 22nd and of course---spring assembly April 5&6th. Grapevine workshop to be held in June in district 12- flyer will be available after the date is confirmed.

DISTRICT 1 – LOREN G.

Not Present

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DISTRICT 13 – PEGGY M.

Greetings! My name is Peggy DCM for District 13.

We are going strong. Here are some highlights from the last meeting.

PI-Text messaging was added to our phone line, Big Book distribution to professionals, and participated in PI Workshop in Brainerd.

CPC- AA educational presentation to Stearns County parole officers, 1/15/25

Treatment- Added treatments center Sobriety First weekend retreat. Presentation at 180 Degrees Homeless Schelter.

Literature- Our new Literature Chair is doing fantastic! He created and distributed Flyer for literature. He had been selling literature.

We followed up on a request from the "Project Connect" event that we participated in in in October. We were asked to bring an AA meeting to the homeless shelter Lincoln project. We had GSR, DCM, and Alt. DCM visit the facility to get a better idea of the feasibility for AA meetings. After 3 District meetings reporting our findings and speaking to professionals, we decided we were unable to provide meetings due to safety concerns. We distribute literature and meetings schedules to the facility.

We have been doing 5-mimute education at our district meeting to help the District Chairs and GSRs learn more about the Service Manual. Use this time to review the Northern Light as well. The District members are very receptive.

I will be attending the WCRAASC Feb. 28-March 2 by Zoom. I hope we have several people from the District on Zoom.

I spoke with Diane, our Delegate, and she plans to offer a Zoom meeting after the WCRAASC to go over the Agenda Items tentative date Sat. 29, 2025.

All Committee chairs are working hard; PI, Treatment, Literature, Corrections, Treasurer doing the work of the district.

We have great positive energy to move forward into the new year!

Grateful, Peggy M. DCM D13

DISTRICT 21 – JERI S.

Thank you for the privilege to continue to serve as District 21 DCM!

Just attended our Area 35 Meeting 2/2/25! Great discussion and turn out considering the inclement weather! 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! Many thanks to our District 21 trusted servants Patrick; Pine Tree GSR/Hal; Noon Day GSR for the Men's Correction and Kat A Woman's Way GSR for the Woman's Correction service work!

Another noted recognition is Lisa E BYOBB and Erin A Women's Way for their presentation and workshop on Back to the Basics Big Book Study January 18th & 19th Gratitude Hall Alano Club! The Big Book workshop was well attended with Elder Stateswomen/men including various lengths of sobriety and newcomers! Wonderful discussions with AA members sharing their experience, strength and hope! Let's give Lisa and Erin a round of applause of for putting on such an empowering and enlightening workshop! Also, many thanks to Mike from BYOBB and the BYOBB Group for all their contributions as well as helping to make the Back to the Basics workshop such a huge success! It takes a village!

Participation at our District 21 Meetings continues to gain momentum and I thank you all for your participation! March 10th Monday 7:00 PM, our Area 35 Delegate Diane R will attend our District 21 Meeting to discuss Agenda Items for the upcoming GSO Workshop! Thank you, Diane! I also want to thank current District 21 Trusted Servants Mary Treasurer, Jen M Alternate Treasurer, Jen M Literature, Dale Secretary, Grace & Wil Archives, Brent AA Records, Kat Corrections, Patrick/Hal Corrections, and Steve PI/CPC! I can't do this work without you, and I thank 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! Jeri S District 21 DCM

Thank you! Jeri S.

CORRECTIONS – MARK R.

My sincere thanks and gratitude to A.A. members who are volunteers 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. Each week I search for A.A. members in Area 35 who would be willing to volunteer to be Temporary Contacts for men and women incarcerated in our Minnesota Correctional Facilities. As a CTCP OUTSIDE volunteer, you will correspond with A.A. Members still in custody, upon release, 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 more A.A. members to get involved in this very important and lifesaving Twelfth Step work! I'm looking forward to working with all of our CTCP OUTSIDE volunteers during the upcoming 2025 MCF Transition Fair season!

I continue to be available to help our Area 35 District Corrections Chairs & DCMs with their respective Corrections opportunities. Gary H. (District 11 Corrections Chair), Gary takes meetings into Kanabec & Pine County jails. Gary also volunteers at Sandstone Federal prison, MCF-Rush City, Moose Lake, and Willow River. Sandstone has been shut down for a while and Mark R said he would check into why. Gary has been going to these facilities for many years solo. He now has much needed help coming from Mine U and Jeff O (District 6). Thanks Mike & Jeff! Paul C. (District 3 GSR/Corrections Volunteer), Paul takes meetings into Wadena County jail. Things are getting back to normal, at one point due to behavior issues, Paul and others were doing 1 meeting per incarcerated as they needed to be separated! The District is providing more literature for the jail as well. Paul mentioned he would be interested in volunteering at one of the DOC Transition Fairs in 2025! Melvin S. (District 3 DCM & Corrections Actions Chair), District 3 continues to bring A.A. meetings to Wadena, Ottertail, and Becker County jails. There have been some groups folding in the Moorhead area and Melvin is going to look into that – Moorhead and Fargo, ND manage the Clay County jail meetings. Ricco R. (District 9 Corrections Chair), There are no corrections facilities in District 9. However, Ricco volunteers to bring meetings to MCF-TOGO. Ricco is interested in volunteering again at the MCF Moose Lake & MCF-Willow River Transition fairs in 2025! Ricco is also helping with Tony S. and Adam C. om the Tri-County Corrections Workshop and is waiting to hear back from Tony S. on meetings at NERCC! Ricco spoke with the TO-GO Program Coordinator, and they may look into Transition Fair there. Carter L. (District 5 Corrections Chair), Services Mille Lacs and Sherburne County jails. Meetings every Tuesday at Mille Lacs County and the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at Sherburne County with 4 men's meetings and 1 woman.

Carter was voted on January 1st at the SWCC meeting as the new SWCC Chair - Congratulations Carter! Jeff O. (District 6 Corrections Chair), Jeff brings meetings into Isanti County jail. Jeff is also starting to work with Mike U. (A35 Literature Chair) starting meetings in Chisago County jail and helping grow the volunteer base for A.A. meetings at Pine County jail and alternates every other week at MCF-Rush City! He has brought much needed help for Gary H! Robyn J. (District 13 Alt DCM), Robyn came and was sitting in for Peggy M (District 13 DCM & Corrections Action Chair). Peggy shared the awesome work Peggy has been doing for the District and its groups. This has been seen in the growing attendance at the monthly District meetings and just general increase in volunteers! John D. (District 13 Corrections Chair), who services Benton and Stearns County jails. He has 8 women and 1 man volunteer for Stearns County jail and is hoping to get that going once Stearns County has all its Jail Guards trained and in place for programming to start. A few women have stepped down volunteering at Benton County, looking for more volunteers there. Mark R has been handling volunteers and the Thursday night A.A. meetings at MCF-St Cloud, Mike R handles Tuesday nights. Mark R. (Area 35 Corrections Chair), I'm servicing MCF-ST Cloud Thursday night A.A. meetings. I have 6 volunteers, and we are averaging 20-25 men. We have read through the first 164 pages, and Dr Bob's Nightmare. Two weeks ago, we started reading Steps One, Two, and Three in the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. It was a very Spiritual experience to see these men open up about their own powerlessness and how badly their lives were, unmanageable. Truly unbelievable and unexpected as a volunteer – God was certainly present with all of us! I also have a meeting at the Mille Lacs County jail on the 2nd Tuesday each month.

I'm looking at expanding my Service work joining the men at MSOP (MCF-Moose Lake Sex Offenders Program) for their Saturday morning A.A. meeting as well as Stearns County jail when those meetings start-up once again! I attended the Area 35 Service Workshop in Crookston. Awesome presentations, great job Pat! I was not able to make the CPC/PI Workshop as my grandson had Wrestling matches at St Michael/Albertville and Orono that weekend. I'm attending the West Central regional Conference in Casper, WY. I'm riding with Mike U and looking forward to the camaraderie during the drive there & back! Looking forward to the 2025 DOC Transition Fairs and Carrying the Message to those less fortunate via our CTCP program. Hoping we average 15-20 requests for Area 35 at each event! The new schedule will be coming out in the next few weeks - more to come! God Bless you all, Mark Rinehart

I am excited to be the new SWCC and look forward to building the relationship between Area 35 & 36; and helping explore and support more services opportunities as well. Thanks for this opportunity to serve.

Yours in Service, Carter L Statewide Corrections Committee Chair correctionsmn@gmail.com

DISTRICT 9 – TOM T.

Hello, I'm Tom T. and I'm an alcoholic.

I'm the District 9 DCM for this rotation and my home group is the Hibbing Monday Night Downtown Group.

Since our last ACM on December 3, 2024, our CPC/PI Chair and her committee have begun to put together the idea of having different group presentations to the Professional Community and the public servants. They are having an ADHOC committee come up with ideas and costs as well as the best ways to present the AA information to our community and ultimately reaching the still suffering alcoholic. Then these ideas will be considered, voted on and implemented.

I also attended the Winter Workshop in Crookston, MN. on January 11, 12, 2025. Our District was privileged to be a part of it by putting on a presentation titled "Closing the gap" how do you make the voice of every AA group

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count. We had Lynda, a GSR from District 9 and Jake, a past Delegate, and I give the information. I want to thank Pat, our Alternate Delegate, for putting on a very good workshop.

Our website hits have been phenomenal, over 33, 500 this last period. Thanks to Phyliss for doing a great job with it and to our PI/CPC volunteers for passing out information and literature onto the community.

I hope to attend the WCRAA service conference via Zoom. I will also be attending the Area 35 Spring Assembly.

In service, Tom Toscano – DCM – District 9

DISTRICT 8 – JOHN J.

Not Present

Lunch Break 11:50pm Reconvened 12:35pm

OLD BUSINESS

Ad-hoc committee updates-

Ad hoc update- Technology for area 35

I have been struggling for the last nine months to Getting together with ad hoc committee. What we have been asked to do is pros and cons of having meetings on the web. The members that were signed up to this committee. I have only been able to meet one time so far. When I have reached out to them, our committee has a lot going on in their personal lives. I am looking for a past delegate to join the committee and Nels asked if he could join our committee. So, I will reach out to a few past delegates. If anyone here would like to help on the committee, please reach out to me.

Update- We held a committee meeting after the ACM we met for 30 minutes and had great discussions. What should we do? From this point on, we had a great turnout Mark R Corrections, Terry Technology, Terry Grapevine, Kyle Treatment, Dennis from District 6 and Jennifer Northern lights and me Julie district 6. I have a few of the members reaching out to all timers and new timers in their area to find out how they feel about being able to attend in person or only online or a hybrid method. I have Mark Looking up what traditions we are breaking and which traditions we are following. And also, Someone to check on accessibility manual. I believe we will be ready for the spring assembly to be able to present. Thank you everybody that attended

Julie N

Archives- link on the Area 35 Website continued- Marc N presented-Discussed Digital Archives-

Digitizing Archives – Displaying on Website

It has been suggested that digitizing our archives would reduce the cost of storage. This is partially true. Items such as Area business records and recordings of meetings and events are easily digitized, but these that are items already preserved in Paper, Photo, Record, Tape, CD/DVD, or USB should be kept as well as the digitized copy. Currently new area business and recordings are kept in digital format only, this could be hazardous as these items were kept in digital format for several years, then lost. Hopefully a better storage plan is in place now.

Requests to make archives viewable on our website have been made a few times in the past several years and more recently have been made by a few GSR's. The next several paragraphs explain complications in doing that.

- -Books are not easily posted on our website, but a list of books could be. Books would not be available for checkout like a library but could be read at the archives. Pictures of our books on bookshelves could be posted.
- -Audio recordings are not suitable for publishing on our website because of the tendency to include personally identifiable information. Listening would be the discretion of the archivist. An index of digitized audio recordings could be published on our website.
- -Most documents are either Area or District business and are available for research when requested via DCM or Area Chairperson. Viewing would be a discretion of archivist.
- -Pictures and poster boards that do not show personally identifiable features could be assembled into slide shows and posted on our website. (The pictures available to buy from GSO archives are not to be posted on our website, but can be displayed at Assemblies, Conventions, Roundup, etc.)
- -Personal correspondence is only for research purposes, a listing is available by requesting of the archivist, not posted online. (i.e.: letters from /to Duluth, Hibbing, St. Cloud, and Crookston in early 40's as well as things like letters to GSO, Delegates, Trustees, WCRAA, and more)
- Archived items or collections that are on other websites will not be duplicated on our website. (Grapevine Magazines, Box 459, GSO Published items, etc.)

A Proposal for including an archive section on the Area 35 Website would be something like this:

-An explanatory letter that describes both the inclusions of our archives and the listing of those items on the website. This would include the methods that could be used for requesting and then accessing, viewing or listening to

archived items. It would also state that items such as area and district business audio recording or written meeting minutes and some personal correspondence could be available for extended approval.

-An inventory list of books. Books are not available for checkout like a library but would be viewable at the archive repository.

-An inventory list of audio recordings. MP3 recordings would be shared via MS365 or Google Drive with copying disabled and for limited time. -Slide shows of (anonymous) pictures, posterboards, magazine covers and articles, and more.

Cost- of inclusion on website per our webmaster is his time-Bonus info:

I inquired about GSO Archives regarding the plan that I outlined for Archives on Area 35 website. I received feedback that the plan is aligned with many other areas. The only suggestion they made was that transcribing audio would be easier to anonymize (scrub). They also gave warning of copyright technicalities, but considering the circumstances of the recording sessions, this is not a likely concern.

Discussion/questions?

- -One member concerned about anonymity wondered why we are asked to introduce ourselves with our full names at the microphone. feels that we should not do that
- -A member stated our Anonymity statement is for the Public level not internally
- -It was stated that at closed Alcoholics Anonymous meetings we do not need to be anonymous, but at the level of press, radio and film, we do need to remain anonymous.
- -What does GSO recommend for the Archives Committee?
- -Our Archivist asked the GSO Archivist, and they agreed with maintaining anonymity for our purposes as that is what others are doing around the country-
- -A member recommended listening to the new GSO Podcast as they were just talking about Anonymity and many other things. We could learn about password protected websites where only AA members could be available to see or hear certain things-

NEW BUSINESS

February 15th GSR Training-

The GSR training will be using Teams not Zoom and we want to make sure people are able to log on.

- -We should not have to download the Teams app, should we be able to put in the meeting id and have access.
- -Can we have direct links on our Website?
- -Is this GSR Orientation in addition to the Assembly orientation? Yes, this is from the results of the Area Inventory- follow up ad hoc committee. The inventory found GSR's were asking for more information and a training session before the Assembly so they could prepare better.
- a GSR stated the more we know what to do the better we can get our groups' conscience before we get to the Spring Assembly- we need all the information we can get-
- -a DCM asked if it would be recorded for those that couldn't be there on the $15^{\text{th-}\,?}$

-Question about recording using Teams? Teams has pictures and transcriptions of what people say when it is recorded, is there a way to have just audio? We could view is as a closed meeting for AA members only and have a link available to AA members through the Area Chair or Webmaster

-Draft Statement of Financial Responsibility-

The Area offices reviewed and updated the Financial Responsibility statement as there were things the Area no longer does- The Chair will send out copies of the draft to all for review and will be voted on at the Spring Assembly

- Discuss hybrid/virtual meeting for December ACM-

- -Discussion on having a trial Area Committee Meeting for December-
- -Many Area Chairs and DCMs missed this last December with holidays and illness-there was also no business that was done- this could have been easily done virtually instead of driving hours and finding so many people missing and no real business to attend.

There would be cost savings of approximately \$1000.00 -

- -Discussion-
- -This year is a voting year; we could use the December meeting to work with incoming members. The February ACM?
- -How do we pick a month to do this? How do we know if members will be missing?

In person it is important

- -Why do we have to be extreme and be just virtual? I would have shown up if there was a hybrid option.
- against technology still- we lose personal connection-however willing to try using online if necessary to bring in people that must miss the meeting-
- -The initial thought was to suggest hybrid but that seems to go nowhere too and then we talk about not having the correct equipment to do hybrid can't we just try something? Hybrid or virtual only? We don't seem to want to try

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-We do have an inclement weather policy that states we could use hybrid now, maybe we should have today? Do we even have the capabilities now to have a hybrid meeting?

-one is in favor of hybrid- we are in a time of transition, we don't want to prevent someone who is not computer savvy from attending, at the same time we want the next generation to participate when they want to be computer savvy at these things. We want all to attend how do we do that?-

- -A Technology Ad hoc committee member stated this is what their committee is to be working on- this is important for us, for those that want to help, let's meet after the meeting today so we can have something to present at Spring Assembly-
- -Technology has advanced in the last 2 years with the price of things coming down-
- We have small groups that can't be self-supporting right now and may not be able to afford to send someone to the Assembly- we are forgetting about small groups in rural areas that don't have enough money to come in person- but would attend online-Would love a hybrid option right now for those that we are excluding due to financial reasons
- -Corrections workshop was hybrid, a video camera that has 180 capabilities to zoom in to whoever is speaking- was purchased for a little over \$300, we had 20 people online with no complaints- when weather is bad we might not know until the day before and then we scramble to get the meeting set up, let people know the change- maybe we should just be hybrid all the time- it's hybrid all across the country- Area 36 does very little in person-AA has not gone away using hybrid/virtual-
- What about AI coming in, how does that affect us online? Does anybody know? Is this an outside issue?
- -We need to be mindful on how we record things- mindful on how we use technology

-Service Workshop and Evaluations-

The 49th winter service workshop working together increasing trust the service workshop was held in Crookston Minnesota at the Crookston Inn Convention Center, January 11th and 12th 2025.

Our guest speaker was Charlie H., our West Central regional trustee. Charlie presented on working together increasing trust, he did an excellent job at that. He told a story in the evening and he had the closing talk in the morning. Charlie really enjoyed his lunch with the GSR's. He enjoyed getting to know them and answering their questions. Charlie really enjoyed his dinner with the DCM'S that presented that weekend, with their districts. He enjoyed their enthusiasm for service. Charlie left me a messag, e Charlie said I love to focus on groups and the traditions, strong groups are vital to strong AA.

District 6 presented how we address our new financial reality facing our spiritual movement.

District 2 presented the importance of good leadership concept 9.

District 5 presented what our role in keeping with and safeguarding our traditions is.

District 18 presented on what our role in keeping with and safeguarding are singleness of purpose.

District 8 presented on why is taking inventory important Group District. Area GSO.

District 9 presented on closing the Gap how do we make the voice of every group count.

District 3 presented on delegating is it okay to ask for help.

There was great Q &A from our fellowship. All the Districts did an amazing job. I could not be more grateful for the willingness to serve, the commitment that they put into the workshop. It was an amazing workshop. with all the presentations, there was a sense of great unity and I can tell you all put your hearts into your presentations. Once again, thank you Charlie, West Central regional trustee. Everyone involved in this workshop made this a fabulous workshop.

There were 72 in attendance at the winter workshop, 26 GSR's 8 DCM's, 38 others consisting of past delegates, Area officers District officers Area committee chairs District committee chairs and AA members. The GSR's & DCM's always enjoy their breakout sessions. They also enjoyed meeting guests with the general session presentation workshop experience, as a whole and everyone enjoyed meeting our West Central regional trustee Charlie H.

I would like to read an evaluation:

"The presentations gave me a better understanding of our traditions, why they are in place and the importance of them.

The presentations help me understand my position as GSR more clearly, as well as how many more layers there are to AA.

Learning about the role of the GSR".

Everyone seem to think that having ice cream at the end of Saturday night is one of the greatest things where we can just have great fellowship.

Thank you for allowing me to be your Alternate Delegate Pat M

Motion to adjourn 1:40 Closed with the Responsibility Statement

ONE ULTIMATE AUTHORITY

"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." This idea did not start with the adoption of the traditions, but like the others was an outcome of the trial and error of the first decade plus of our fellowship. The idea of the group conscience has been around since alcoholic number 2 was found after a 6-month search. You could say Lois represented the group conscience, even before this, when reminding Bill, he was still sober as he lamented the continuous failures. This tradition was formed from incidents such as Bill being informed by the group that being paid to work with alcoholics may not be the great idea he thought it was. It showed up in the early discussions of how the big book should be put together and more importantly, marketed. The debate between the more conservative members and the "promoters" has been characterized as spirited, to say the least. Our founders give example after example of ideas that the group conscience decided were not appropriate for the budding fellowship. The traditions and then the creation of the conference were efforts to codify the group conscience as AAs leadership, in effect, saving us from our own egos.

This spirit of humility is the primary reason I love service work at the group, district and area levels. It is the reason that sponsees are strongly urged to get involved in service as they start experiencing the promises coming true in their lives. There is no better reminder of the importance of humility than sitting in a room and sharing opinions that you absolutely do not agree with and being ok with it. This is a way for my higher power to remind me that it is not all about me. We can not be of maximum usefulness to God and our fellows if we ignore the group conscience and believe only we know best, not only for ourselves but for AA as a whole.

In the last few years, I have witnessed many apparent challenges to this spirit of humility. This shows up when we constantly try to re-legislate settled items, sometimes passed by a large majority. This is the very definition of the group conscience. More troubling is the emergence of the word "them". In this context it refers to the majority passing these decisions and sets them up as adversaries instead of what they are, members of AA voting through their trusted servants, just as we are. It seems to be that when those votes do not align with our opinions, we are becoming quicker to suggest there is a conspiracy or at least a lack of understanding of what is "right". This becomes counterproductive as we spend significant time trying to "fix" these perceived indiscretions instead of conducting valid business.

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Whew! Made it home again!

This time it was the January Workshop! It felt like a repeat of the West Central Regional Service Conference in Minot I attended last February with the snowy blizzard like driving conditions. However, unlike the WCR I chose not to stay an extra night as the weather forecast was not going to get any better. So, I sucked it up and decided to just drive. I had my snow emergency kit, extra blankets, snow pants and extra food and water that most of us Minnesotans carry with us in winter. I even packed an animal care box just in case I found a needy critter

What is it about these gatherings? Why do I choose to do these crazy things? Like most of us, I did a lot of dumb stuff while drinking but now that I am sober, I really try to be smarter than that. After all God gave us brains to use!

I considered not attending as I am sure some of you did-first I thought to myself, I do not have any responsibilities from my service position for the weekend- so I am not "needed," do I really need to go? Due to circumstances, I ended up driving by myself so again I had no responsibility to anyone else to show up. So then why go? I went anyway as it was my responsibility according to the Trusted Servant Guidelines in our Actions book and I made a commitment to serve. That is why I followed through and showed up. It has been taught to me that when I make these commitments I suit up and show up. I am sure I am not the only one that has been taught that. While I was not sure what to expect from the weekend activities, I knew I could be there to listen, learn, and participate.

By the end of the weekend, I was in awe once again at the members of Alcoholics Anonymous that continue to show up and serve. I want to share some highlights for me throughout the weekend.

As I checked in Saturday morning, I greeted a fellow member who just received sad news from home. A family member had a serious health event, and he was not sure what to do. Do you stay or do you go? He stayed. Saturday evening, he got word that the family member had passed and again he chose to stay and keep the commitment knowing there was nothing else to be done. We talked a bit more and figured sometimes God just puts us where we need to be.

I visited with another member I had not seen in a while who shared how their life continues to change as they care for their spouse while they walk through life changing health issues. I could share with them my own struggles caring for an aging parent with terminal health issues. Somehow finding hope knowing we are not alone in other life struggles.

I had to stop and wonder what brings us together like this? Why do we continue to show up, keep our commitments, drive through blizzards, freeze our butts off, etc... I guess if you are like me, it is because we love Alcoholics Anonymous and want to do our part to make sure it continues to be here for the next alcoholic that needs it and wants it. I love watching the eyes light up for those members new to General Service. I love the care and compassion of the past Delegates that continue to show up and set the example for us. I love it when I have my own "aha" moment and understand something

I had a few unexpected emotions from the weekend that came from speakers and members who presented their workshop topics. One was from a past delegate sharing with us an older piece of AA literature, the "Rise and Fall of the Home Group." By the time they finished reading I had tears in my eyes. I wanted to get up to the microphone and share my experiences but knew I could not make it through without breaking down in a puddle of tears. I just walked through this alongside a family member with over 45 years of sobriety in Alcoholics Anonymous. As the last surviving home group member, she attended faithfully for over 30 years but is not physically able to any longer and with no one willing to commit to the group, that home group now becomes a meeting and will probably not survive.

Another meaningful moment happened when our WCR Trustee Charlie, spoke of Tom I. from Southern Pines North Carolina with his voice filled with emotion sharing the friendship they had because of Alcoholics Anonymous. I met Tom I. only once a very long time ago when I was a few years sober, he made an impression on me! I wished I could have had the opportunity to see him in person more than I did. I still have old cassette tapes with some of Tom's talks that are practically worn out and now of course we can find those talks on some website somewhere and no longer need tape recorders or tapes.

We congratulated a first timer to the Area Workshop who celebrated 2 years of sobriety and sang happy birthday to another member sharing their belly button birthday with us!

These are just a few of the moments that meant so much to me. There were many more I could share, I hope each of you had your own moments. I guess I can stop wondering why I keep showing up to these events even when life throws us really hard curveballs, when it is so fricken' cold outside that I don't want to leave the house, the snow blows so hard I can't see the road etc.. I show up because I get to share the love of Alcoholics Anonymous with you all.

As I drove the 200+ miles home with white knuckles, icy roads and blowing snow, I connected my blue tooth speaker, downloaded and listened to my favorite Tom I. talk, my favorite Billy N. talk, and prayed. I made it home okay and pray you all did too!

Thanks for another great weekend!!!

Denise R

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.

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75th General Service Conference Committees

Below are the final agenda items for the 75th General Service Conference (GSC) committees as of February 2025, and includes standing items for each committee, ongoing items from the prior Conference, and new items that are being forwarded to the Conference

The final list of agenda items, includes the committee distribution by the Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) plan.

Agenda Items

ı. Agenda

- A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2026 General Service Conference.
- B. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2026 General Service Conference.
- C. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2026 General Service Conference.
- Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form, distribution process and 2024 Evaluation Summary.
- E. Discuss 2024 progress report on Conference improvement.
- F. Review feedback from 2024 Delegate Chairs on quarterly communications.
- G. Discuss plan to print and distribute the comprehensive summary of the 2025 General Service Conference Inventory.
- H. Discuss 2024 progress report on Conference Inventory.
- Consider the request to suspend oral presentations of all Area Service Highlights and continue printing highlights in the final report. (PAIs 20 and 32)
- J. Consider a. proposed pilot for a Harmony and Effectiveness Session. (New Item)

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- E. Review initial draft of the supplemental financial reporting of the actual and evolving costs of various services provided by the GSB. Withdrawn. The trustees' committee agreed to take no action on this consideration.
- F. Review Self-Support Packet.
- G. Consider a request to remove the phrase, "A group may also decline to hear reports from a GSR at all" from page 10 in the A.A. Service Manual. (PAI 72)* Note: This item was forwarded from the Report and Charter agenda as part of the 2025 Equitable Distribution Plan (EDW).

v. Grapevine/La Viña

- A. Review AA Grapevine Workbook
- B. Consider the list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2026 or after.
- C. Review the 5-year financial plan for La Viña.
- D. Review the progress report on a plan for a more effective La Viña subscription procedure, fulfillment process and customer service experience.
- E. Review the financial reporting system for the Grapevine and La Viña.
- F. Consider request to revise the pamphlet "Grapevine and La Vina: Our meetings in print" (PAL79)
- G. Review report on "AAGV/La Viña media platforms." *
 Note: This item was forwarded from the Public Information agenda as part of the
 2025 Equitable Distribution Plan (EDW).

vı. Literature

- A. Annual review of recovery literature matrix
- B. Review draft of the revised pamphlet "The Twelve Steps Illustrated."
- C. Review draft of the revised pamphlet "A.A. for the Native North American."
- D. Review progress report on the development of the Fourth Edition of the book Alcohólicos Anónimos - Spanish.
- E. Review progress report of the Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous.
- F. Review draft of the developed video animation of the pamphlet "The Twelve

- II. Cooperation with the Professional Community
- A. Review progress report on AAWS LinkedIn page.
- Review progress report on the development of outward facing pamphlet for mental health professionals
- C. Review content and format of CPC Kit and Workbook.
- D. Review progress report on the effective use of CPC videos on aa.org.
- E. Discuss shared experience in informing professionals how A.A. can serve as a resource for unhoused and neurodivergent alcoholics.

III. Corrections

- A. Review content and format of Corrections Kit and Workbook.
- B. Review progress report on development of a pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic in A.A.*
- C. Review Data from Tablet Vendor Edovo. (New Item)
- D. Review Corrections Survey. (New Item)
- E. Consider request to update Appendix IV in the book Alcoholics Anonymous to include other awards and commendations received by AA since 1951. (PAI 65)* Note: This item was forwarded from the Literature agenda as part of the 2025 Equitable Distribution Plan (EDW).

ıv. Finance

- A. Consider a request to reaffirm the 1975 Advisory Action that delegates emphasize to the groups the effect that inflation has had on the contribution of dollar and the necessity for adjusting contributions accordingly, to support services provided by the General Service Board. [Floor Action from the 74th General Service Conference]
- B. Review suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference.
- C. Review the Conference-approved level of \$10,000 for individual bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. members.
- D. Review the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution of \$7,500 to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member.

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Concepts Illustrated."

- G. Review draft of revisions to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship."
- H. Review progress report on the development of a pamphlet for the Asian and Asian American Alcoholic.
- Consider request that the terms "Indian and Eskimo" be removed from the February 19th-entry in *Daily Reflections*. (PAI 11)- Item was withdrawn since change requested in the PAI was applied in March 2022,
- J. Consider request that the Twelve Concepts for World Service and essays on the Twelve Concepts for World Service be included in the current publication, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. (PAI 23)
- K. Consider request to update the book Living Sober. PAI PAIs 34, 64, 106, 90, 92, 121 122.
- L. Discuss Plain Language Big Book review process.

vII. Policy/Admissions

- A. Review GSO general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection.
- B. Review dates for the 2029 General Service Conference.
- C. Discuss Equitable Distribution of Workload (EDW) progress report and draft plan
- D. Discuss the process of Simple Majority Items.
- E. Consider request that a Super Majority of voting members be required to change or amend Founders Literature. (PAI 36, 93, 96)
- F. Consider a request to develop guidelines for the roles and responsibilities of temporary replacement delegates. (New Item)
- G. Consider request to prioritize a list of selection criteria to inform the committee selection process.(New Item)

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vIII. Public Information

- A. Review the 2025 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
- B. Public Service Announcements (PSAs):
 - 1. Review PSAs for Relevance and Usefulness
 - a. Review the 2025 report on the "Relevance and Usefulness of Audio and Video PSAs."
 - b. Review plan for evaluating Spanish and French language PSAs.
 - 2. Review progress report on the Mesmerize Point PSA distribution channel-
 - 3. Consider suggestion to develop new video PSA. (New Item)
 - 4. Review report and tracking of distribution of PSAs.
- C. Review report on the GSO Podcast, "Our Primary Purpose."
- D. Review report on AAWS YouTube Channel."
- E. Review report on "Google Ads."
- F. Review report on "Meeting Guide app."
- G. Review report on GSO's A.A. website

H. Review report on "AAGV/La Viña media platforms."

Note: This item was forwarded to the AA Grapevine/LaViña agenda as part of the 2025 Equitable Distribution Plan (EDW).

- I. Review report for "AAWS Online Business Profiles."
- Review progress report on developing communications to address anonymity and social media.
- K. Review progress report on analytics reporting.
- L. Review progress report on communicating with young people.
- M. Discuss Public Information pamphlets/materials.
- N. Review report from the A.A. Membership Survey working group.
- O. Review progress report on Young People 's video project.
- P. Review content and format of P.I. Kit and Workbook

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- F. Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook.
- G. Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.
- H. Review resource lists for Remote Communities and Cooperation with Elder Community.

xı. <u>Trustees</u>

- A. Review resumes of candidates for:
 - Southeast Regional Trustee
 - East Central Regional Trustee
 - 3. Trustee-at-Large/U.S.
- B. Review slate of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
- C. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
- D. Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.
- E. Review progress report of the revised pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different?"+
- F. Review Censure Process Proposal.(New Item)
- G. Consider the request to include the version of A.A. Comes of Age, Lasker Award text in the book, Alcoholics Anonymous. (PAI 24 and 63)* Note: This item was forwarded from the Literature Agenda as part of the 2025 Equitable Distribution Plan (EDW).

xII. <u>Archives</u>

A. Review content and format of Archives Workbook.

xIII. International Conventions/Regional Forums

Discuss the upcoming 2025 International Convention.

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ıx. <u>Report and Charter</u>

- A. Discuss the A.A. Service Manual, 2026-2028 Edition:
 - Review list of editorial updates.
- Review progress report on the development of a new section.
- "Amendments" to be added to the Twelve Concepts for World Service.
- Consider a request to remove the word "woman" from the Concept IV essay. (PAI 75,124)

Note: Item 3A on the preliminary agenda, "Consider a request to remove the phrase, "A group may also decline to hear reports from a GSR at all" from page 10 in the A.A. Service Manual. (PAI 72)" was forwarded to the Finance agenda as part of the 2025 Equitable Distribution Plan (EDW).

- B. Consider a request to expand Article Three in the Conference Charter to
- protect the co-Founders' writings. (PAIs 81,15, 26 and 109)
- C. Review progress report on exploring the creation of a corresponding
- Trustees' committee for Report and Charter.
- D. Discuss General Service Conference Final Report.

x. Treatment and Accessibilities

- A. Review progress report on Military Outreach Project.
- B. Review progress report on shared experience from Fellowship on outreach efforts to A.A. members in the military and veterans.
- Review progress report on the Accessibilities Resources flyer made available on aa.org.
- Review progress report on the update of service material with shared experience from neurodivergent alcoholics.
- E. Review revision of the conference-approved flyer "Where do I go from here" (F-4).

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- B. Review progress report on the development of new declaration to be adopted at the 2030 International Convention.
- C. Consider that all Sovereign States flags be a part of the Flag Ceremony at an International Convention. (PAI 10)
- $\ensuremath{\mathsf{D}}.$ Discuss ways to encourage interest and participation at Regional Forums.
- E. Review Final Report of the Subcommittee on Regional Forums Improvements.
- Review Report from Subcommittee to Review Regional Forums Request for Information (RFI) Forms.

*2025 EDW Plan

Proposed Agenda Items (PAI) forwarded to Conference

Committee	PAI Numbers	Agenda Item
ICRF	10	10 -International conference on, all Sovereign States should be able to Bear their Flags at our International conference.
Report and Charter	81 (15, 26 and 109 as background)	81 - Area 35, Northern Minnesota, would like to add to AA's Current Conference Charter under article #3, that A.A.W.S. and Grapevine publications of pre-1972 "Founders Writings" have no contextual changes to their writings without a supermajority of ¾ approval from the full General Service Conference. This includes but is not limited to AAWS publications of the books:Alcoholics Anonymous (Big Book) specifically the The Doctor's Opinion, the first 164 pages two stories Dr. Bobs Nightmare along with AA Number Three and Appendix II Spiritual Experience, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, As Bill Sees It, Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age, Our Great Responsibly, and the Twelve Concepts essays currently in the Service Manual. AAWS pamphlets: Problems other than Alcohol and Let's be Friendly with Our Friends etc. Including Grapevine publications, Language of the Heart and Best of Bill along with any archival articles pre-1972 written by our Founders both Alcoholic: Bill W., Dr. Bob S., Hank P., Bobbie B., etc., and non-alcoholic: Dr. Silkworth, Father Dowling, Dr. Harry Tiebout, Bemard Smith, Frank Amos, etc. These writings should be left intact.

⁺Carryover from a previous EDW plan

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- 15 Whenever any changes are brought to the Conference floor to the Founders' writings, considered by this motion to be:
- The book Alcoholics Anonymous specifically, the first 164 pages, the chapter "The Doctor's Opinion," Forewords to the first and second editions, the Appendices on Spiritual Awaking and the Traditions, and Dr. Bob's Nightmare
- 2. The book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions the Conference must achieve a super-majority of 75% in order for the General Service Board to act upon it. However, the General Service Board shall not immediately act upon the Conference's directions, and instead, shall request all Area Delegates to conduct further discussions in their respective Areas. Area delegates' report backs will be conducted the second following General Service Conference at which the Conference may amend or change the previously approved change to the Founders' writings described above. For final action by the General Service Board, the Conference must achieve substantial unanimity 67%).
- 26 Change the wording of "The Current Conference Charter" in Appendix K of the "The A.A. Service Manual", 2021-2023 Edition (p. 119), Revised May 2021, Section 3 suggested change in UPPERCASE below. Additionally update the Bylaws to give the essays in the 12&12 and the sections of the big book described below the same protection as the short form of the steps and traditions.

"THE CONTENT AND WORDS OF THE BOOK ALCHOLICS ANONYMOUS INCLUDING: THE FIRST 164 PAGES, THE PREFACE, THE FORWARDS, THE DOCTOR'S OPINION, DR. BOB'S NIGHTMARE, AA NUMBER 3 AND THE APPENDIXES ALL REMAIN AS THEY APPEAR IN SEPTEMBER 2022 AND WILL NOT CHANGE EVEN WITH THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF ANY PERCENTAGE OF THE AA GROUPS, THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERNCE, A PUBLISHING COMPANY OR ANYOTHER PERSON OR ENTITY. ADDITIONALLY, no change in Article 12 of the Charter or in A.A. Tradition or in the Twelve Steps of A.A. may be made with less than a written consent of three-quarters of the A.A. groups, as described in the resolution adopted by the 1955 Conference and Convention."

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		109 -In accordance with Appendix L: Resolution authorizing the general service conference, our motion would include all registered A.A. worldwide groups. Our request is that the explanations of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts from the Appendices in the book; Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous, be sent to all the registered A.A. groups worldwide so they are suitably notified of modifications and would have the right to vote on them.
Report and Charter	75 (124 as background)	75 - Remove the word "woman" from the following sentence of the Concept IV, Right of Participation, essay in the Twelve Concepts for World Service portion of the Service Manual: New volunteer corporate directors will ask why any paid woman staff member should also be a corporate director and thereby have a vote as good as their own.
		124 - A change is being proposed to a sentence in the Concept IV (Right of Participation) essay on pg. C13 in the second full paragraph which currently reads:
		New corporate directors will ask why any paid woman staff workers should also be a director and thereby have a vote as good as their own
		The change would be to eliminate the word "woman" in this sentence.
Report and Charter	72	72 - Delete or erase the last sentence on page 10 of our Service Manual in English and Spanish regarding RSG Reports. "A group may also decline to hear reports from a GSR at all."
Policy and Admissions	36 (93 and 96 as background)	36 - We propose that an Advisory Action be issued that requires that any future motion voted on by the General Service Conference that would change or amend the Founders Literature (as described in Section 4 below) would require a Super Majority (three-quarters of the voting members) to pass
		93- Move to create a policy where the world wide membership of Alcoholics Anonymous reaches substantial unanimity on any changes to the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions and portions of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous including, but not limited to: the first 164 pages, the Preface, the Forwards, "The Doctor's Opinion," "Dr. Bob's Nightmare," and the Appendix "Spiritual Experience."

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		96 - In consideration of the intent of recent Advisory Actions to protect from change the Founders Literature (described below), and the Fellowship's feelings that Founders Literature be retained as originally published, it is resolved that in the future, the English language versions of the Founders Literature shall not be changed or amended by the GSC except by first asking the consent of the AA groups of the US and Canada. Those groups shall be suitably notified of any proposal for change and shall be allowed no less than six months for consideration thereof. And before any Conference action be taken to change or amend the English language versions of the Founders Literature, there must first be received in writing within the time allotted, the consent of at least three-quarters of those known groups in the US and Canada who respond to such proposal.
Agenda	20 (32 as background)	20 - Consider suspending oral presentations of all Area Service Highlights and print highlights in the final report to allow for additional time on the agenda. 32 - To end the practice of oral Area Highlights at the yearly General Service Conference. Instead, Area Highlights should be documented in the Conference Manual and Final Conference Report. The time saved from this change shall be reallocated to committee work, sharing sessions, or report backs.
Literature	11	11 – I Garry S. make the motion that the terms "Indian and Eskimo" be removed from February 19th in AA Daily Reflections,
Literature	23	23 - Area 73, West Virginia, requests that the General Service Conference include the twelve concepts for world service and essays on the twelve concepts for world service in the current publication, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, thereby changing it to Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts.
Literature	24 and 63 as background	24 - We move that the text of Appendix D page 301 of Alcoholics Anonymous Comes Of Age "Text of The Lasker Award" replaces the existing abbreviated version of the same Lasker award located in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous on page 571.

English/Anglais/Inglés

		English/Anglais/Inglés
		63 - That the text of Appendix D page 301 of Alcoholics Anonymous Comes Of Age "Text of The Lasker Award" replaces the existing abbreviated version of the same Lasker award located in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous on page 571.
Literature	65	65- Update Appendix IV in the book "Alcoholics Anonymous" to include other awards and commendations received by AA since 1951. For instance, add the Library of Congress adding this book to one of the ten most influential books of the 20th Century and any other awards and commendations I do not know about.
Literature	34,64,106, 90,92,121, 122	34 - Begin the process to create a second edition of the book Living Sober and report results to the 2026 General Service Conference.
		64 - That the Living Sober booklet be updated to reflect the new tips available for staying sober in the post pandemic world.
		106 - The Trustees and the Literature Committee create a Second Edition of the booklet Living Sober.
		The Second Edition would update the existing chapters and add additional chapters to reflect the Digital Revolution and other changes in society, which have occurred since the booklet was first published in 1975.
		90 - Celebrating 50 years of Living Sober (1975 – 2025) we ask that the trustees' Literature Committee explore the idea of a substantial overall/upgrade to this vital book that has sold over 7 million copies and made AA understandable and accessible to many of us. The two overall ideas we are proposing for Living Sober in the 21st Century are:
		A) Update the language of the existing 31 chapters (contemporary use of pronouns and examples, capturing online as well as in-person AA connections (Zoom, podcasts, social media) and,
		B) Expand with more that has been revealed about living sober since 1975, aiming this 50th anniversary project towards maybe a 50 chapter booklet (purely suggestive).
		92 - Celebrating 50 years of Living Sober (1975 – 2025) we ask that the trustees' Literature Committee explore

the idea of a substantial overall/upgrade to this vital book Page 12 of 14

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that has sold over 7 million copies and downloaded countless more times and made AA understandable and accessible to many of us. The two overall ideas we are proposing are:

 A) Update the language of the existing 31 chapters (contemporary use of pronouns and examples, capturing online as well as in-person AA connections (Zoom, podcasts, social media) and,

B) Expand with more that has been revealed about living sober since 1975, aiming this 50th anniversary project towards maybe a 50 chapter booklet (purely suggestive).

121 - Celebrating 50 years of Living Sober (1975 – 2025) we ask that the 75th General Service Conference ask the trustees' Literature Committee to explore the idea of a substantial overhaul/upgrade to Living Sober, which has made AA understandable and accessible to many. The two overall ideas we are proposing are:

 A) Update the existing 31 chapters to reflect our 21st century AA life: on-line as well as in-person AA gatherings, meeting apps, podcasts (Grapevine, AAWS etc), and social media, etc. and,

B) Expand with more chapters (More has been revealed) about living sober experiences since 1975, aiming this 50th anniversary project towards maybe a 50 chapter booklet (purely suggestive, not directive).

122 - Celebrating 50 years of Living Sober (1975 – 2025) we ask that the trustees' Literature Committee explore the idea of a substantial overall/upgrade to this vital book that has sold over 7 million copies and made AA understandable and accessible to many of us. The two overall ideas we are proposing for Living Sober in the 21st Century are:

 A) Update the language of the existing 31 chapters (contemporary use of pronouns and examples, capturing online as well as in-person AA connections (Zoom, podcasts, social media) and,

B) Expand with more that has been revealed about living sober since 1975, aiming this 50th anniversary project towards maybe a 50 chapter booklet (purely suggestive).

New topics from Trustees' Committee

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Committee	From Trustees' Committee	Agenda Item
Public Information	Trustees' Public Information	The committee agreed to forward a suggestion to the 2025 Conference Committee on Public Information that a new video PSA be developed.
Finance	Trustees' Finance	The committee reviewed and agreed to forward to the 2025 Conference Committee on Finance the request to reaffirm the 1975 Advisory Action that delegate, in reports to their areas, place more emphasis on group support. Delegates should emphasize to the groups the effect that inflation has had on the contribution dollar and the necessity for adjusting contributions accordingly to support services provided by the General Service Board.
Policy and Admissions	Trustees' GSC	Discuss the process of Simple Majority Items.
Grapevine	PAI 79	Revision of Pamphlet P-52 - Grapevine and La Vina our meetings in print and other media.

Policy and	Trustees'	Request to develop guidelines for the roles and
Admissions	GSC	responsibilities of temporary replacement delegates
Policy and	Trustees'	Request to prioritize a list of selection criteria to inform the
Admissions	GSC	committee selection process
Trustees	Trustees'	Review Sub-Committee Report: Grievances about GSB
	Nominating	Actions
Agenda	Trustees'	Proposal pilot for a Harmony and Effectiveness Session to
	Nominating	discuss Grievances about General Service Board Actions.
Corrections	Trustees'	Review Data from Tablet Vendor Edovo.
	Corrections	
Corrections	Trustees'	Review Corrections Survey.
	Corrections	

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AREA OFFICER & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS

DELEGATE- DIANE R

Hi, I am writing this from Casper, Wyoming, getting ready for the West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference to begin.

We had our General Service Representative (GSR) Orientation online. After a rocky start with the PowerPoint, we explained what will happen at the Area 35 Spring Assembly. The GSRs heard about Proposed Agenda Items, the General Service Conference Agenda Items, and the background on these items. Discussions will take place in some districts before the Spring Assembly. We will discuss them at the Area 35 Spring Assembly, and GSRs will bring their group conscience on the items. All Agenda Items are in the Northern Light. They are also available online at area35.org under General Service Conference. You can get the password from me or the DCM. Please remember that the background information is confidential.

Late in the day on February 20, the General Service Conference Agenda Items started to come out with the background information. After I come back from the General Service Conference, I will attend Districts to tell you what happened at the conference. Districts can now schedule Pat and me to come to your district for a Report Back from the Conference. Please schedule as soon as you can.

This year at the Fall Assembly, it is an election year. Each district can nominate one A.A. member for delegate. Please ask that member first and have them read the description of the Delegate in the Action Booklet and in the A.A. Service Manual. Please let Vickie, the Area Chair, know. Resumes have to be submitted to her by the June Committee Meeting.

I am still waiting for the Minutes from the January Board Meeting and the End of the Year Financial Statements. The General Service Office has formed an Ad Hoc Committee to determine what information we will receive

In Service, Diane R

ALTERNATE DELEGATE-PAT M

No report given

CHAIR-VICKI R.

Greetings in 2025

I attended the PI/CPC workshop in Brainerd. Great job everyone! I really enjoyed it.

Area Officers hosted a GSR training on Teams on Feb 15 from 9am-12pm. I've prepared the Spring Assembly Agenda and sent it out

I've sent out the proposed Statement of Financial Responsibility for review.

In grateful service, Vicki R

SECRETARY-DENISE R.

Hello all,

I have been a bit busy since the February Area Committee Meeting. The Area Officers held a virtual GSR Workshop on Microsoft Teams February 15th that I participated in with a presentation introducing some of our Conference Approved literature. I was happy to see approximately 20 people attending, however I don't think using Microsoft Teams was very effective. For anonymity purposes the Area Officers decided not to record the GSR Workshop as there was no way to record audio only using the Teams platform. We discussed going back to using the Zoom platform. More discussion coming up-

I prepared and distributed the minutes from the February Area Committee Meeting.

Our ad hoc committee reviewing the Trusted Servant Guidelines met February 20th and will meet again March 6th to finalize some items for the Spring Assembly. Thank you to Scott A., Diane R. and Marc N. for all the time and energy put into this.

I am looking forward to logging in virtually to the West Central Regional AA Service Conference. Unfortunately, I am not able to attend in person this year. I also look forward to reviewing the Agenda Items when my District reviews them with our Delegate Diane.

It will be great to see you all at the Spring Assembly!

Thank you for letting me serve, Denise R.

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AREA OFFICER & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS

TREASURER – HEIDI B

Hello Area 35 -

This past month has been very challenging for me and my family. I had several family emergencies, including the death of my brother just last week. Prayers for my family are welcome.

February income is below.

Income:	<u>February</u>
Contributions	\$3,982.78
Birthday, Special	\$0
Literature	\$0
Grapevine	\$120
Other	\$ 210
Total Income:	\$4,312.78

Please include your group name and number when sending me your contributions so that I can credit the proper group. A group name is not enough. Many groups have the same name and checks arrive from home addresses with no known group in the city listed on check and no phone number for following up. If you don't know your group number, please contact Phyllis at grouprecords@area35.org or myself at treasurer@area35.org. I want to make sure your group gets credit for your contribution.

Thank you for allowing me to serve! Heidi

COMMITTEE CHAIRS WEBMASTER – TERRY P

No report. given

NORTHERN LIGHT – JENNIFER T.

I continue to welcome submissions from members. I am enjoying the opportunity to serve and see what is going on in the area. Kindly, Jennifer

<u>GROUP RECORDS – PHYLLIS K</u>

Hi Everybody,

We have had these changes: GRS/CP- 4 new ones and one expired 1 meeting added to the Meeting Guide 1 new DCM registered

1 help call looking for Spanish-speaking meetings

For Northern Light: 3 people are away, 1 address needed fixed, 4 had changes to time, location, or day of the week, 1 person passed away, 2 were removed from the list, and 5 people added.

Thanks, and have a good day! Phyllis K

<u>LITERATURE – MIKE U</u>

Greetings everyone

I'm Mike and I'm a alcoholic and you're area literature chair. Not much to report . I did attend the area workshop in January, all the district that gave a presentation did a great job,. Also got to meet area new west central trustee, Charlie, picked him up from the Fargo airport. He was dressed for Minnesota winter. I have been going to the Rush city prison to help with bringing meetings there and the Isant jails on Thursday night. I will be driving to the west central conference in Wyoming then to the big o round up March 14 to the 16 and then over to cool springs for there round up and then to the spring assembly.

Thanks for letting me serve you Mike U.

TREATMENT - KYLE H

No report given

PUBLIC INFORMATION – RANDY A

Greetings Area 35 –

I've been busy the past month with a plethora of items and contacts. Our primary purpose podcast from GSO is available on the website Through interviews with GSO office staff and voices from AA history and the fellowship. It explores how GSO supports AA and how to carry the message. Please take the time to check it out and listen especially to the PI and CPC information.

I was able to go online and participate in the WCRAASC – it was very important dialog and discussion on all the agenda items. Hopefully we can give the delegates a general idea and consensus on the various agenda items to bring to the General Service Conference. There was quite an abundance of agendas and input from Public Information which inspired lively discussion from the group conscience. It went late at night into Sunday morning here at 12:30 am.

We are still inquiring about the Health & Human Service Conference at the DECC in Duluth on October 8-9th, 2025 about setting up an information booth and/or presentation, I will also be visiting the Essentia Health Clinic/Hospital HR department and inviting them to attend the upcoming PI Luncheon hosted by District 8 on Friday March 28th at the Mt. Iron Community Center in Mt. Iron MN. I will also be visiting the Bois Forte Tribal Council, the Rock Ridge High School in Virginia and U S Steel Minntac Mining HR department as well as the local Police Departments. I am looking forward to the upcoming Area 35 Assembly in St. Cloud next month.

Yours in Service, Randy A.

<u>SECRETARY – DENISE</u> R

Hello all,

I have been a bit busy since the February Area Committee Meeting. The Area Officers held a virtual GSR Workshop on Microsoft Teams February 15th that I participated in with a presentation introducing some of our Conference Approved literature. I was happy to see approximately 20 people attending, however I don't think using Microsoft Teams was very effective. For anonymity purposes the Area Officers decided not to record the GSR Workshop as there was no way to record audio only using the Teams platform. We discussed going back to using the Zoom platform. More discussion coming up-

I prepared and distributed the minutes from the February Area Committee Meeting.

Our ad hoc committee reviewing the Trusted Servant Guidelines met February 20th and will meet again March 6th to finalize some items for the Spring Assembly. Thank you to Scott A., Diane R. and Marc N. for all the time and energy put into this.

I am looking forward to logging in virtually to the West Central Regional AA Service Conference. Unfortunately, I am not able to attend in person this year.

I also look forward to reviewing the Agenda Items when my District reviews them with our Delegate Diane.

It will be great to see you all at the Spring Assembly!

Thank you for letting me serve, Denise R.

CPC - MARY S

I attended and presented at the PI/CPC Workshop in Brainerd on January 25th. We had a good turnout, in my opinion. All the presenters did a great job.

I also attended the West Central Region Conference and Forum this weekend viz ZOOM. I was proud of our Delegate, Diane, who represented Area 35 extremely well. Thank you Diane. What I found particularly interesting was the information passed on by the Iowa Delegate, Dan P. from Area 24. I grew up in Iowa, and I began drinking in Iowa. I didn't have a clue about AA Meetings back then. He spoke about the meetings available today and that AA is alive and well. The whole event made me proud to be involved in Alcoholics Anonymous.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 35 as your CPC Area Chairperson.

Mary S.

<u>ARCHIVIST – MARC N</u>

I did a bit of research as requested by AA members. I continue to digitize cassette tapes. An offline copy of the Archive One Drive files was created on an external solid state hard drive. A few books were received and added to the archive inventory. GSC Agenda items were added to the digital archives.

Archivist, Marc

ARCHIVES – CATHY R

No report given

GRAPEVINE – TERRY A

No report. Given

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AREA OFFICER & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS

CORRECTIONS - MARK R

A warm welcome to all my fellow Area 35 A.A. men & women! We made it out of the deep freeze and February 2025 is almost over. Wow, how time has flown by since we were together in snowy Aitkin for the ACM on February 2nd.

Not to be a broken record, but again, I want to extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to all our A.A. members who are Carrying the Message of A.A. bringing A.A. meetings into County Jails and Minnesota Correctional Facilities, as well as volunteering to be Temporary Contacts for those incarcerated who are soon being released back into their communities. God has blessed us with so many of you who are doing this precious Corrections Service work, traveling many miles in some cases and in all kinds of weather to extend the hand of A.A. to those less fortunate who happen to be incarcerated, both men & women!

I had planned on attending West Central Regional in person, riding with Mike U. but due to having back surgery, I had to back out and will be attending via Zoom instead! Safe travels Mike and the rest of our Area members attending in person!

I was invited to attend the Area 36 ACM on February 8, 2025 via Zoom. I specifically attended the Corrections breakout session for 2 hours. Thanks to my Area 36 counterpart, Dave Anderson who is the new Corrections Chair for the 2025-2026 rotation. I shared what we have been doing together the past 3-4 years and more specifically information about the CTCP programs and Transition fairs. I was able to meet several new Area 36 Corrections Chairs and existing volunteers – Greg J. (D24 Cor. Chair), Tracy Jo (New Alt A36 Cor. Chair), Jennifer (D 16 Alt DCM), Kim F (D22 Cor. Chair), Alisha S. (D1 Corrections), Nate (D8 GSR), and Dave B (D23 GSR).

Continue to look for A.A. members in Area 35 who would be willing to volunteer to be Temporary Contacts for men and women incarcerated in our Minnesota Correctional Facilities. As a CTCP OUTSIDE volunteer, you will correspond with A.A. Members still in custody. 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 are now coming into our 2025 Department of Corrections Transition Fair season, which is where we get 95% of our CTCP INSIDE requests! There are 10 Transition Fairs at our 9 MCF facilities, with two being held at MCF-Willow River. I want to thank Jessica S. (D7 DCM), Ricco R. (D9 Cor. Chair), Tony S. (D8 Cor. Chair), Paul C. (D3 Cor. Volunteer), Mike U. (Area 35 Literature Chair/Cor. Volunteer), and John D. (D13 Cor. Chair) who have already volunteered for upcoming fairs! Our first fair is April 8, 2025 at MCF-Willow River #1 and Jessica S and myself will be attending. Below is our 2025 schedule.

FACILITY	TRANSITION FAIR DATE	APPLICATION DUE DATE	VOLUNTEERS
MCF-Willow River #1	April 8, 2025	March 14, 2025	Jessica S./Mark R.
MCF-Faribault	May 21, 2025	April 23, 2025	OPEN
MCF-Saint Cloud	June 4, 2025	May 7, 2025	Paul C./A36 (John D)
MCF-Red Wing	July 15, 2025	June 17, 2025	Tony S./A36
MCF-Lino Lakes	August 7, 2025	July 10, 2025	OPEN
MCF-Moose Lake	September 9, 2025	August 12, 2025	Ricco R./A36 (Mike U)
MCF-Rush City	September 23, 2025	September 16, 2025	OPEN
MCF-Willow River #2	October 14, 2025	September 16, 2025	OPEN
MCF-Shakopee (Wome	n') November 4, 2025	October 7, 2025	Jessica S./A36
MCF-Stillwater	November 19, 2025	October 22, 2025	Tony S./A36

Unfortunately, due to many issues the Minnesota Correctional Facilities have been experiencing with drugs and other contraband entering via mail, paper, and visitors, they are no longer allowing any Vendors to bring any materials into any facility. Therefore, we can no longer provide A.A. Pamphlets, District Meeting cards, A.A. Literature, or our CTCP-INSIDE registration forms. I have some ideas on how to tackle this, so I'm hoping these new riles will not hinder our great service work with this wonderful program!

Finally, I had previously asked DCMs from both Area 35 & Area 36 to send me District meeting cards for our Transition Fair supplies. We no longer need them I'm sorry to say at this time. I want to thank John J. (D8 DCM) who sent me a bunch of cards immediately upon my request – thanks so much John!

I also want to thank Gary J. of Area 36, D23 Westside Group of New Ulm who sent a package of their District 23 meeting cards. In both cases, I returned the cards with a big "THANK YOU" to both Districts. I would like to share with you all, the kind email message I received back from Gary:

Hello Mark, Gary J. of District 23 Westside Group of New Ulm AA here. 2/28/2025

I want to thank you for the return of our meeting cards and letter. Very nice of you to spend the time and money to do this. Does my heart good that we have people in the world who will extend the effort and do the right thing.

Take care and may God bless. Gary J.

Looking forward to seeing everyone online this weekend for the West Central Regional, as well as at the Spring Assembly in April here in St Cloud!

Yours in Grateful Service,

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!

Our committee continues to work hard to promote A.A. Corrections Service work throughout the State of Minnesota! Over the past 2 years, we have seen many A.A. members join our committee from Northern Minnesota Area 35 and Southern Minnesota Area 36. We have seen more District Corrections Chair join the SWCC and get more involved across the State of Minnesota! It has been a wonderful experience to see our fellowship grow in A.A. Corrections Service work!

Our monthly meeting is tonight, February 5th. Results are below.

I would like to thank Mark.for all of the work he has done with Statewide Corrections Program and and the awesome workshops he as done.

I am grateful for this opportunity and look forward to working with the Area 35/36 Corrections chairs to continue building the great legacy he has created for the Correction Program and continue to build our Service Commitment to those less fortunate and still suffering who are incarcerated and behind bars.

Note: No other news and updates to report at this time.

SWCC Monthly Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CST) Occurs every month on first Wednesday

Yours in Service,
Carter L
Statewide Corrections Committee Chair
correctionsmn@gmail.com

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ARCHIVES

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE "ADVISORY ACTIONS": To save time during the course of the Conference, many special problems are referred to Conference Committees. In all cases these committees are chosen by lot. Each committee reports to the full Conference Committee are chosen by lot. ence at the final session.

Following are highlights of various committee reports and recommendations that were adopted as "Advisory Actions" by the Conference for the guidance of the Trustees of The Alcoholic Foundation:

- 1. New delegates to the 1953 Conference should assemble one day prior to opening of the full Conference. (To permit basic briefing on Conference and A.A. history, etc.)
- The Conference Policy Committee to be elected in 1954 should consider the advisability of recommending an enlarged Conference in 1955. (For the purpose of reviewing Conference experience to that date).
- The following shall be incorporated on all literature published by Works Publishing, Inc.: "Issued by Works Publishing, Inc., sole publishing agency of the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous. Approved by the General Service Conference of A.A."
- 4. The 1952 Conference reaffirms the stand taken by the 1951 Conference, as follows: "This Conference has no desire to review, edit or censor non-Foundation material. Our object is to provide, in the future, a means of distinguishing Foundation literature from that issued locally or by non-A.A. interests."
- 5. The Conference approves the principle of retaining professional writers on a fee basis when their employment has been authorized. (Adopted when it was shown that the literature needs of the Society could not be filled promptly and efficiently in any other way.)
- 6. The policy of seeking group contributions at the rate of \$2.00 a year for each member should be continued in effect. (It is suggested that groups provide for these contributions in monthly or quarterly budgets).
- 7. As a means of informing the groups, a simple summary of General Service Office financial operations should be prepared, showing current condi-tions including the Group Fund's accumulated indebtedness of \$24,000 to
- 8. Facsimile reproductions of the Lasker Award should be made available to all A.A. groups in a form suitable for framing.

Preparation and distribution of "Conference Highlights" is authorized by the 1952 Conference delegates as a means of keeping groups informed on developments in A.A. services. Fuller details on the Conference are available through your area committeeman and Conference delegate. The detailed report of the 1952 Conference (44 pages) may be obtained by group secretaries by writing to The Alcoholic Foundation, 141 East 44th Street, N. Y. C.

(ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS REPORT AVAILABLE AT FIVE CENTS EACH)

FOUR PANEL DISCUSSIONS WERE AMONG THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1952 CONFERENCE: For the first time in the history of the Society, A.A.s from 47 States and seven Provinces gathered in free, full and open discussion on problems that seem to be common to the movement throughout the world. Out of this cross-fertilization of ideas, it is hoped, increased strength and unity will emerge as the Society continues its "maturing" process. Here are some of the topics that were discussed in the panel meetings:

- The problem of the easy-does-it fellow who loafs around the clubhouse, stays sober, but makes no effort to support himself.
 The problem of getting an accurate count of group membership.
 The problem of non-A.A.s who tend to dominate A.A. groups.
 The problem of joint administration of A.A. and "Club" facilities
 Central and Intergroup Office set-ups
 A.A. and the colored person who seeks help
 Deviations from the Twelve Traditions
 Relations with State and Local Commissions on Alcoholism
 The Work of Conference delegates with local A.A. groups and committees.

- The Work of Conference delegates with local A.A. groups and committees.

Summaries of these panel discussions appear in the detailed 44-page Conference Report which is being distributed to all delegates and area committeemen.

FIVE MAIN SUBJECTS WERE SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION AT POLICY SESSIONS: Here are the results, in brief:

- 1. The Conference approved the idea of continuing to have non-alcoholic members serve with alcoholics on the Board of Trustees of The Alcoholic
- The Conference voted to table a resolution that would have had the effect of seeking Congressional incorporation for the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous. In addition, the Trustees were asked to appoint a committee of five Conference delegates to consider this question.
- 3. In discussing the question of terms of office for future Conference delegates, the 1952 delegates reaffirmed the principle of rotation in service jobs "at all levels of A.A." (Acknowledging that a longer term of office might be desirable in the future, Bill noted that the Conference is still in the experimental stage and that the fifth Conference in 1955 might provide an opportunity for reviewing total experience to that date).
- 4. The provocative subject of <u>family groups</u> was discussed at two full-length sessions of the Conference. Noting the long history, development and recent rapid growth of the "movement" as a distinct non-A.A. entity, the delegates, in a special resolution, approved unanimously "the work that Lois and Bill have done to encourage and support the sound growth of the family group movement."
- 5. As noted earlier, Bill's long-range writing-and-research project was approved by the Conference. The delegates also approved Bill's suggestion that, in the event of increased royalties from his writings, he be given discretion over the disposition of royalties beyond those needed for his living expenses. (These excess royalties would not be for Bill's personal use. He would like discretion to have them used for such items as the provision for the future of General Service Office employees who now are not eligible for social security and for other purposes for the good of the movement).





A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous

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

ar 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.

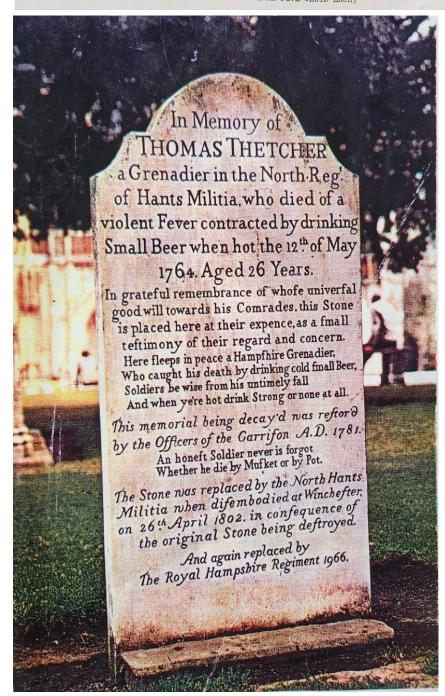
The Plain Language Big Book covers the core content of what is the "abridged version" (the edition without personal stories) of the original Big Book

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
- Item B-90
- 192 pages; 8 1/2 x 11"
- Softcover format with flaps



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AREA EVENTS

Area 35 Spring Assembly

April 5-6th 2025

St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center 10 4th Avenue South St. Cloud MN 56301



Hotel Best Western Plus Kelly Inn 100 4th Avenue South St. Cloud MN 56301

320-253-0606 Room Rates: \$139.00 plus tax/fees

NMAA-Area 35 Cutoff Date March 4th

Rooms are also available at the Courtyard Marriot-320-654-1661 (no block rate)



Saturday. April 5th 9:00 AM Assembly Convenes Sunday. October 6th 9:00 AM Assembly Reconvene



<u>ATTENTION</u> – <u>PLEASE READ</u>

*** REGARDING: CORRECTIONS CORRESPONDENCE ***

If any A.A. Member or A.A. Group is involved the Corrections Correspondence program, and your Incarcerated Person (IP) has moved from one DOC/BOP facility to another and your mail has been returned back to you, please do the following!

- 1. You will need to contact A.A. Corrections Coordinator at the GSO in New York
- 2. Call them at: (212) 870-3085 (this number is also on the Registration Form-shown below)
- 3. Or email them at: corrections@aa.org
- 4. Provide them with the name of the man or woman whom you are corresponding with. The staff at GSO will do a "Look-Up" using the VINELink website.
- Upon locating where your Incarcerated Person is now at, they will re-register your information with that individual and provide you with their new address for corresponding.
- You can also look-up the person you are corresponding with by going to this website. URL: https://vinelink.dhs.gov/#!/map











Hosted by District 1 AA with Al-Anon

Saturday April 5, 2025

Community Center - Fertile, MN 101 South Mill St. (Hwy 32)



12 pm - 1 pm Registration (\$15 includes dinner)

1 pm- 3:15 pm INTRODUCTIONS: 1:00pm - 1:15 pm Al-Anon: Workshop 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm

AA: Workshop 2:15 pm - 3:15 pm

3:15 pm - 3:45 pm Break - Coffee

3:45 pm - 4:45 pm Al-Anon Speaker: TBD

5 pm - 6 pm Dinner

6 pm - 7 pm AA Speaker: Tom B., Thief River Falls

RSVP number attending: Loren @ text/call (AA) at 218-230-5173

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The Rise and Fall of a Home Group

-Published on:-

Publication Date 1987-10-01 Magazine Issue October 1987

-Author: -

Author Name W. S. Author City Rochester Author State

New York

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Once upon a time there was a home group of Alcoholics Anonymous. I say "once upon a time," because this group no longer exists. It folded one day after many, many years of serving the alcoholics in its community. Why?

I found this meeting to be a very healthy group of Alcoholics Anonymous. There were many oldtimers to be seen talking with new people, there were greeters at the door, a secretary, treasurer,
and a GSR all discussing group business. New people were welcomed with a cup of coffee and a
handshake. The group just beamed with happy people. A large crowd each week caused many
tables to be filled and seats were hard to come by. The last Tuesday of each month the group broke
down into smaller groups for table discussion meetings. The rest of the meetings each week were
closed speaker/discussion meetings and again seats were hard to come by and getting there early
was common knowledge. Coffee was always ready for the first early person to arrive and there was
always fellowship after the meeting. Sound good? Maybe this is your home group?

One meeting, after a group conscience discussion, a woman was offered the responsibility of GSR. She got the job after discussion about whether she would be good for the group. She started attending area assemblies and GSR workshops to learn about the Traditions and how they helped groups stick to their primary purpose. She learned about Conference-approved literature and how it shouldn't be mixed in with other literature to confuse the new people about which is AA's and which is not. She also learned about money in the Fellowship, the 60-30-10 and other plans, and not using basket money to buy outside literature. This was exciting to me to watch this group becoming informed on issues that affected it as one group within the larger AA.

But then, slowly, the group's customs and practices began to erode. At one group business meeting the GSR pointed out that the literature the group literature representative had purchased was not Conference-approved literature and was purchased with money intended for AA use. This business meeting ended with the literature representative throwing the outside literature order forms at the group and leaving.

Later at another business meeting, discussion was held on whether an interpreter for the hearing impaired could be allowed to attend a closed meeting. The group conscience decided against it, since it was a closed meeting. An old-timer, in disagreement, took the matter before the people attending that night's meeting whether they were members of that group or not. The people attending voted to reverse the decision of the group conscience by opening the meeting to anyone. That meeting conscience weakened the effectiveness of that group conscience, and more people left the group.

This group was so well attended the church adjusted the rent accordingly. But money was always there because of the number of people who attended the meetings. The group became so effective in carrying the message that a local alcoholism referral agency began sending its new young people to the Tuesday meeting as an introduction to AA. This drew other young people to the meeting and eventually it began to be known as a great place for young people to meet. Within a year after this flood of young people, a local center for troubled children began sending some of its clients to the meeting also. By this time some of the old-timers had found other Tuesday meetings to attend. When asked why, they said, "We are not hearing the language of AA that we need to hear to stay sober." Others thought the real reasons might be age differences, dress, language of the street, and just plain being outnumbered young to old.

A powerful principle in AA, rotation—the passing-it-on to the newer people—was needed in order for the group to grow. This time there was no discussion by group conscience about who would be best for the group or who was sober, but rather anyone who would volunteer got the responsibilities. Secretary, treasurer, and GSR were passed on to people who didn't know the first thing about the principles of AA or anything of the Traditions in action. Once a chairman offered the Traditions for a discussion topic one night and they were turned into feelings, drug talk, Freudian concepts, and

March/April, 2025

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rehab language. He never came back and neither did the former officers of the group. The group had become a group of the blind leading the blind.

Group conscience began discussing the topics: how do we get older people to return, how are we going to pay this high rent? What are we going to do?

A local DCM was asked to attend a group conscience meeting to listen and offer some suggestions. They talked about the Traditions, Steps, outside literature, getting sober people to chair the meetings, turning radios off, and the quality of sobriety that action in AA offers. A plea went out to older members to please return to the meeting. A few did return, but for only a short time. These kids seemed to be left on their own. A new group conscience emerged, struggled for a short time, and failed again when volunteers were needed to fill the frequently vacated group responsibilities.

Again, there was no leadership from the now "younger old-timers," as they too left for other groups.

Finally, with the rent too much, no coffee, no unity, "A Home Group" met last week to announce the end.

Bill W. said that the force which will destroy Alcoholics Anonymous will come very slowly from inside the Fellowship. This group lasted some fourteen to seventeen years. AA consists of home groups, and as a Fellowship we are seeing a breakdown of this principal structure.

If we as a Fellowship don't carefully pass on to newer members the responsibilities that come with being a group, many more groups will go the way of this group. The old-timers must stick around to teach the newer members "how it works," not only in the Twelve Steps but in our groups.

Sometimes the new people must drag the answers out of the old-timers, and if they are not at the meetings, we will repeat the mistakes made early in the Fellowship.

We must learn how to keep this Fellowship alive and our groups intact for the next member who needs it. By helping insure the sobriety of others to come, we insure our own sobriety today. The best member of Alcoholics Anonymous that one can be is the best member of "A Home Group" that one can be.

Source URL: https://www.aagrapevine.org/magazine/1987/oct/rise-and-fall-home-group

AA Crossword

- 5. The former title of As Bill Sees It
- 8. Last name of Bill Ws first love 9. First name of Bill W's first love
- 13. AA magazine
- 15. One of the 3 legacies
- 16. The Y in YPAA
- 17. Dr Bobs middle name
- availed us nothing 19. Half _
- 20. The A in HALT
- 23. Co founder of AA
- 24. Group service rep.
- 25. Bill Ws last name
- 27. it is suggested you get one of these 29. What Jim poured his whiskey into in More About
- 31. Another name for higher power
- 32. One of the 3 legaci
- 34. Spiritual foundation of all our traditions
- 36. does it 37. The T in HALT
- 38. Amount of steps befor Bill wrote the 12 steps

Down

- 1. Ebby Thatchers sponsors last name
- 2. how many meetings some sponsors recommend you attend in early sobriety
- 3. Popular AA beverage
- 4. Ebby Thatchers sponsors first name
- 6. Name of group Bill W was a member of before AA
- 7. Dr Bobs last name
- 10. chapter that was included in the first edition of the Big Book but was later excluded in the subsequent editions
- 11. Number one offender
- 12. One of the 3 legacies
- is the answer to all my problems 14.
- 18. Co Founder of AA 21. The only chapter not written by Bill W
- 22. Doctor Bobs area of expertise
- First name of Bill W's wife
- 28. Companion group to aa for families of alcoholics
- 30. The L in HALT 33. The H in HALT
- 35. Did Ebby Thatcher die sober?

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UPCOMING EVENTS

*See area35.org for printable flyers

*** VOLUNTEER INVITATION ***

Join The A.A. 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
- 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. JOIN ZOOM MEETING

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81607291607?pwd=L0NpMVdtNUJxVS9EVWFVb2tCZ2J1QT09

Meeting ID: 816 0729 1607 Passcode: 261258



"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





NEW LOCATION

River of Life Church 22881 178th Ave | Cold Spring, MN 56320

SATURDAY, MARCH 22ND 2025

Dinner 6:30pm

Social 5:30 pm | \$15 Advance \$20 At Door

> **Open Meeting 8 pm** Everyone Welcome

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Al-Anon: Tanya D. - Brainerd, MN AA: Ray F. - Alexandria, MN

Ice cream will be served between speakers.

For more information, call: Fred at 320-260-7063



St. Cloud Roundup's

Celebration of Recovery

Saturday, May 17, 2025

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

> 7 p.m. Speaker Jessie D., Al-Anon Eveleth, MN

8:30 p.m. Speaker Steve E., A.A. Sartell, MN

Ice Cream Social after speakers

Buy tickets at www.stcloudroundup.org Tickets must be purchased by May 12, 2025. Pre-registration and Online \$10.00



PRE-RE	GISTRATION	FORM copy as needed
Informati	on: 952-406-120	3 • stcloudroundup@gmail.com
Make che	cks payable to:	SCR Pre-registration must be purchased by May 12, 2025
Mail to:	St Cloud Roun P.O. Box 125	

Buy tickets at stcloudroundup.

for online registration

NORTHERN LIGHT

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UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers



Iron Range Get-Together

May 2nd, 3rd 2025 Design for Living

Location: Grand Rapids Eagles Club

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

**Tropical Shirt Night" JOIN IN. **

Friday, May 2nd

5:00 PM ... Registration Opens

8:00 PM ... AA Speaker: Roger B. – Minneapolis, MN

OPEN MEETING FOLLOWING AA SPEAKER

Saturday, May 3rd

10:00 AM ... Out of State Panel

I:00 PM ... AFG Speaker: Ed D. – Henning, MN

3:00 PM ... Call-Up Meeting

7:00 PM ... AFG Speaker: Marica M. – Wolcott, CT 8:00 PM ... AA Speaker: John R. – Walton Hills, OH

??? till I I:00 pm ... 8th Tradition Ice Cream Social

IRGT Pre-Registration Form	A.FG. \$20.00	Ocher \$20.00				
IRGT Pre-R	AA. \$20.00	Alateen \$6.00	Name	City/State/Zip	Group Name	

IRGT Pre-Registration Form	A.F.G. \$20.00	Other \$20.00			
IRGT Pre-R	A.A. \$20.00	Alaceen \$6.00	Name	City/State/Zip	Group Name

Please make your own Hotel Reservations by April 13th.

Close to Eagles

IM Hotel (218) 327-1108 AmericInn Lodge & Suites (218) 212-1842 TimberLake Lodge (218) 326-2600

In Town

Hotel Rapids (218) 326-3458 Country Inn & Suites (218) 327-4960

For more information contact: Jack at 218-341-7367 or Mary at 218-259-6852

Registration at the Door:

A.A., A.F.G., and Others -- \$20.00, Alateen -- \$6.00 Or Pre-Register for \$20.00 with form on other side Make checks payable to IRGT & Send to: IRGT, PO Box 855, Hibbing, MN 55746

<u>ATTENTION</u> – <u>PLEASE READ</u>

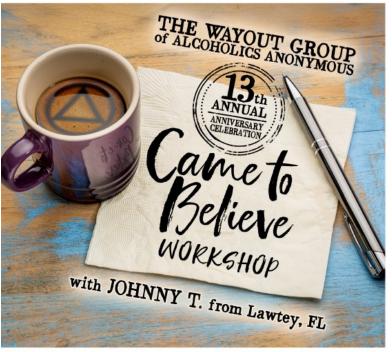
*** REGARDING: CORRECTIONS CORRESPONDENCE ***

If any A.A. Member or A.A. Group is involved the Corrections Correspondence program, and your Incarcerated Person (IP) has moved from one DOC/BOP facility to another and your mail has been returned back to you, please do the following!

- 1. You will need to contact A.A. Corrections Coordinator at the GSO in New York
- 2. Call them at: (212) 870-3085 (this number is also on the Registration Form-shown below)
- 3. Or email them at: corrections@aa.org
- Provide them with the name of the man or woman whom you are corresponding with. The staff at GSO will do a "Look-Up" using the VINELink website.
- Upon locating where your Incarcerated Person is now at, they will re-register your information with that individual and provide you with their new address for corresponding.
- 6. You can also look-up the person you are corresponding with by going to this website: URL: https://vinelink.dhs.gov/#!/map



	turn to address below	for Outside A.A. Members Only CCS-3
am a 🔲 MALE	FEMALE	How many inmates are you able to write to?:
can correspond in	☐ English ☐ Frenci	h Spanish Other language
Name:		Phone (office use only):
Name:		Phone (office use only): Email (office use only):



FRIDAY - APRIL 25th, 2025 7:00pm Call up Meeting

SATURDAY APRIL 26th, 2025

10:00am to 4:30pm Came to Believe Workshop with JOHNNY T.

12:00 NOON - Pulled Pork Sandwiches & Brisket (Lunch Provided) 5:00pm Potluck Dinner - Bring a Dish to Share 7:00pm - JOHNNY'S STORY

LOCATION: Central Lutheran Church (Door 2) · 1103 School St. NW, Elk River, MN 55330 QUESTIONS Contact Adam L. 651·269·0560 or Jarrin V. 320·333·8510

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UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

2025 Service Events

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



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 AMONYMOUS, INC. • P.O. BOX 468 GRAND CONTRAL STATION, MBW YORK, MY 10163-[212] 970-3460. • TRAL [212] 970-3062. • WHALLD GREEN

F-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 <u>do not</u> come out any sooner to the Delegate than the week of February 15th due to the January General Service Board Meeting.

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

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

Thank you for your help.

Agenda <u>Deadline Dates</u>

September 15th

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

February 15th

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

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

1st Sunday in February

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

1st Weekend in March

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

1st Weekend in April

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

3rd Week in April

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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

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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 $8 \frac{1}{2} \times 11$.

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

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

NMAA 1102 E Camp St Ely, MN 55731

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE MOST **CURRENT ADDRESS!!!**

RELATED FLIER INSERTION INFORMATION

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

Northern Light Deadlines for 2025 are as Follows:

- April 30th, 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

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Area 35 Event Flyer Guidelines

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

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

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

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

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

Acronyms

(Spaghetti Soup)

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

AREA 35 EVENTS INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

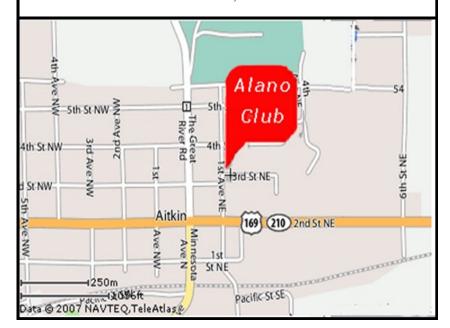
- Area Chair asks for weather reports from all DCMs from respective Districts, either by email or phone.
- Meeting format (virtual, in person or hybrid) is based on DOT report and national weather service, individual safety being paramount. Decisions will be made by 9pm the day before the meeting.
-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

AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Where is the Aitkin Alano Club?

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

Aitkin, MN



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	DAOT	D E I		
OUR	PAST	1)HI	⊢(j∆	1+S

Panel 72 202	22-2023	Panel 40	1990-1991	Panel 14	1964-1965	
Steven L		Bob J		Donald F		
	20-2021			(deceased)		
Jim S		Panel 38	1988-1989			
<u>Panel 68 201</u>	<u>18-2019</u>	Scott J		Panel 12	1962-1963	
Christine G				Donna T		
	<u>16-2017</u>	Panel 36	<u> 1986-1987</u>	(deceased)		
Kelly D	14 2015	Louie H		Panel 10	1960-1961	
	<u>14-2015</u>	D 104	1004 100#	Bob B	1900-1901	
Michael "Jake" J		Panel 34	<u> 1984-1985</u>	(deceased)		
Panel 62 201	12-2013	Bob P(deceased)		(40004504)		
Jim K	12 2013	Panel 32	1982-1983	Panel 8	1958-1959	
		Tom L	1702-1705	Pearl N		
Panel 60 201	10-2011	(deceased)		(deceased)		
Jon C	_	(deceased)			40764077	
	<u>08-2009</u>	Panel 30	1980-1981	Panel 6	<u> 1956-1957</u>	
JoAnne M N		Don M		Waldo H		
		(deceased)		(deceased)		
	<u>06-2007</u>			Panel 4	1954-1955	
Jerry S		Panel 28	<u> 1978-1979</u>	Wendell H	1754 1755	
Panel 54 200	04-2005	Garfield (Duffy) S		(deceased)		
Charlie C	04-2003	(deceased)				
		Panel 26	1976-1977	Panel 2	1952-1953	
	<u>02-2003</u>	Vern R	17/0-17//	Arthur R		
Tim C		(deceased)		(deceased)		
Panel 50 200	00-2001	Panel 24	1974-1975			
Tom A	00-2001	Gordon B. H				
		(deceased)				
Panel 48 199	98-1999	D 100	1050 1050			
Susie A	_	Panel 22	<u> 1972-1973</u>			
		Frank P. J (deceased)				
	<u>96-1997</u>	(deceased)				
Bill P		Panel 20	1970-1971			
(deceased)		Clarence B	1770 1771			
		(deceased)				
		,				
		Panel 18	1968-1969			
		Dave H				
Panel 44 199	94-1995	(deceased)				
Bruce B		Panel 16	1966-1967			
		Arno A	1700-1707			
	<u>92-1993</u>	(deceased)				
Greg G		(======)				
(deceased)						

Q: Why list our past Delegates?

A: They are a resource to you!

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

The Delegate's Duties

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

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

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

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Area 35 Spring Assembly April 5^h and 8th, 2025

St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center St. Cloud MN

Committee Meetings 11:30 a.m. Lunch (On Your Own) 11:30 a.m. Lunch (On Your Own) 11:30 a.m. Assembly Convenes Call to Order-Open with the Serenity Prayer Why We Need a Conference Recognize Past Delegates Recognize 93Rs Additions to Agenda Approve 2024 Fall Assembly Minufes GSC Agenda Item Sharing Session I Agenda Cooperation With the Professional Community Corrections Finance Finance Grapevine Committee Meeting Suma 8:30 a.m. Big Book Meeting 8:00 a.m. Assembly Reconvenes ***Finish Business/Reports (if Any) OFFICER REPORT3 ***Finish Business/Reports (if Any) OFFICER REPORT3 ***Chair = Vioki R Atemate Delegate = Pat M Chair = Vioki R Secretary = Denise R Treasurer = Held B COMMITTEE CHAIR 8 AND DCM REPORT3 Committee CHAIR 8 AND DCM REPORT3 District 7 = Jess S WEBMASTER = Terry P NORTHERN LIGHT = Jennifer T GRapevine SCOUP RECORDS = Phylis K District 2 = Kim B District 11 = Kathy M Literature LITERATURE = Mike U
11:30 a.m. Lunch (On Your Own) 1:00 p.m. Accembly Convenes Call to Order-Open with the Serenity Prayer Why We Need a Conference Recognize Pact Delegates Recognize GSRs Additions to Agenda Approve 2024 Fall Accembly Minutes GSC Agenda Item Sharing Session I Cooperation With the Professional Community Finance Grapevine Crapevine Case Agenda Item Sharing Session II Corrections Finance GROUP RECORDS — Phylis K Case Agenda Item Sharing Session II Cistrict 7 — Jess S WEBMASTER — Terry P NORTHERN LIGHT — Jenniter T GROUP RECORDS — Phylis K Cistrict 2 — Kim B Cistrict 11 — Kathy M Literature LITERATURE — Mike U
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Approve 2024 Fall Assembly Minutes GSC Agenda Item Sharing Session I Agenda Committee CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS Corrections Finance Grapevine Grapevine Carponal Community Grapevine Committee CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS District 7 – Jess S WEBMASTER – Terry P NORTHERN LIGHT – Jennifer T GROUP RECORDS – Phyl is K District 2 – Kim B District 11 – Kathy M Literature LITERATURE - Mike U
G8C Agenda Item Sharing Session I Agenda Cooperation With the Professional Community Corrections Finance Grapevine Grapevine 230 p.m. Break C98C Agenda Item Sharing Session II Literature Treasurer – Heidi B COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS District 7 – Jess S WEBMASTER – Terry P NORTHERN LIGHT – Jennifer T GROUP RECORDS – Phyllis K District 2 – Kim B District 11 – Kathy M LITERATURE – Mike U
Agenda Cooperation With the Professional Community Corrections Finance Grapevine Grapevine C30 p.m. Break C45 p.m. G8C Agenda Item Sharing Secsion II Literature COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS District 7 – Jess S WEBMASTER – Terry P NORTHERN LIGHT – Jennifer T GROUP RECORDS – Phyllis K District 2 – Kim B District 11 – Kathy M LITERATURE - Mike U
Cooperation With the Professional Community Corrections Finance Finance Grapevine 2:30 p.m. Break Cylindry Section II Literature District 7 – Jess S WEBMASTER – Terry P NORTHERN LIGHT – Jennifer T GROUP RECORDS – Phyllis K District 2 – Kim B District 11 – Kathy M LITERATURE - Mike U
Corrections
Finance
Grapevine GROUP RECORDS – Phyllis K 2:30 p.m. Break District 2 – Kim B 2:45 p.m. G8C Agenda Item Sharing Section II District 11 – Kathy M Literature LITERATURE - Mike U
2:30 p.m. Break 2:45 p.m. G SC Agenda Item Sharing Secsion II District 1 - Kathy M Literature LITERATURE - Mike U
2:45 p.m. G8C Agenda Item Sharing Section II District 11 – Kathy M Literature LITERATURE - Mike U
Literature Literature - Mike U
Pulley and Administration
Policy and Admissions District 8 – John J
Public Information District 15 – Fred T
Report and Charter PUPLIC INFORMATION – Randy A
Treatment/Special Needs-Accessibilities District 1 – Loren G
4:50 p.m. BREAK District 21 – Jeri S
5:00 p.m. TREATMENT – Kyle H
GSR Sharing Session District 5 – Chad O
DCM Sharing Session District 14 –
Area Officers and Area Chairs Meet CPC - Mary S
Closed AA meeting District 6 - Julie N
8:00 P.M. Dinner (On Your Own)
7:30 P.M. Assembly Reconvenes ARCHIVES - Carby R.
GBC Adenda item sharing session iii
ARCHIVIST - Marc N
District 4 – Juy B
International Conventions/Regional Forums District 18 – Steve T
OLD BUSINESS GRAPEVINE - Terry A
Intergroup links on Area 35 website District 12 - Richard G
District 16 – Dave C
NEW BU SINE 88: CORRECTIONS – Mark R.
Guidelines Ad Hoc Committee/Items for GSR review District 3 – Melvin S
Pro/Con discussion – Simple Majority/Substantial (2/3) District 13 – Peggy M
Unanimity for voting GSR Sharing Semion Report
Draft Statement of Financial Responsibility DCM Sharing Session Report
See Chair or Delegate for a copy of the DelegateOfficer/Action Chair Senion Report
Resume if your District plans to nominate a candidate at the Ask It Basket (Past Delegator)
June 2025 ACM Adjourn - Responsibility Statement
For transparency: Lwill plan to offer a virtual option
during the Aug ACM to allow GSRs to vote if there are any
Proposals for consideration for the GSC

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