

Northern Light
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June 29th, 2025

This is YOUR Newsletter

Area 35

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

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

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

Volume XLIII Issue 3 May/June, 2025		NORTHERN LIGHT Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly		Created 1982 Page 2			
2024-25 AREA 35 COMMITTEE							
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Zone I

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

Zone II

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

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

District Meeting Location Information		
<p><u>District 1</u> 2nd Sunday of even months, 2:00 p.m. Fertile Community Center 101 S Mill Street Fertile, MN 56540</p> <p><u>District 2</u> 1st Sunday of odd months, 3:00 p.m. Thief River Falls Alano Club 614 Davis Ave Thief River Falls, MN 56701</p> <p><u>District 3</u> 3rd Sunday of month, 12:00 p.m. Perham Alano Club 43452 County Hwy 34 Perham, MN 56573</p> <p><u>District 4</u> Last Sunday of month, 5:00 p.m. Lakes Area Alano Club 1604 Jefferson St Alexandria, MN 56308</p> <p><u>District 5</u> 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</p> <p><u>District 6</u> 3rd Thursday of month, 7:00 p.m. Spring Lake Lutheran Church 8440 Erickson Rd NE North Branch, MN 55056</p>	<p><u>District 7</u> 3rd Thursday of month, 7:00 p.m. First Congregational United Church 415 Juniper Street Brainerd, MN 56401</p> <p><u>District 8</u> Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m. General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Day and location rotate. Contact DCM for info.</p> <p><u>District 9</u> Last Sunday of month, 6:00 p.m. Hibbing Alano Club 3725 1st Avenue Hibbing, MN 55746</p> <p><u>District 11</u> 1st Tuesday of month, 7:00 p.m. Peace Lutheran 2177 Hwy 18 Finlayson, MN 55735</p> <p><u>District 12</u> 3rd Thursday of month, 6:30 p.m. 1100 E Superior Street Duluth, MN Handicap Accessible</p> <p><u>District 13</u> 1st Monday of month, 7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. St. Cloud Alano Club 127 7th Ave NE Saint Cloud, MN 56301</p>	<p><u>District 14</u> 3rd Thursday of month, 6:30pm Coffee Landing 444 3rd Street International Falls, MN 56649</p> <p><u>District 15</u> 1st Monday of month, 7:00 p.m. Albany Community Center 741 Lake Ave Albany, MN 56307</p> <p><u>District 16</u> 1st Wednesday of month, 6:30 p.m. United Methodist Church 1701 SE 5th Ave Grand Rapids, MN 55744 Handicap Accessible</p> <p><u>District 17</u> Not currently active or unknown</p> <p><u>District 18</u> 1st Tuesday of month, 5:30 p.m. Long Prairie Alano Club 21 2nd Ave Long Prairie, MN 56347</p> <p><u>District 21</u> 2nd Monday of month, 7:00 p.m. Bemidji Alano Club 3802 Greenleaf Ave NW Bemidji, MN 56601</p>

<p>Area 35 Spring Assembly Minutes St. Cloud, MN April 5-6, 2025</p> <p>Call to Order: Area Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 5, 2025, and opened with the Serenity Prayer. There were 110 Registered at 1:00</p> <p>Read “Why we need a Conference” - Kathy M.</p> <p>Recognition of Past Delegates in Attendance: Area 35 – Tim Calhoun, Panel 52; Charlie Craven, Panel 54; Jerry Saari, Panel 56; Jim Kath, Panel 62; Mike Jake Jacobsen, Panel 64; Kelly Dempski, Panel 66; Area 36 – Scott Ahlgren, Panels 57 and 59</p> <p>Recognition of GSR’s- - 43 in GSR Orientation 10+ new</p> <p>Additions to Agenda: Technology Ad hoc Committee, Jim K. WCR Forum, Randy A. State Fair Booth, Approval of October 2024 Fall Assembly Minutes: Cathy R. motioned to approve the minutes; Bud M. seconded. Motion PASSED.</p> <p>Points of Order: Purpose of the Area is 3-fold: 1. On election year, which is this year, elect a Delegate who will represent the Area’s conscience at the annual General Service Conference 2. To form a local decision-making structure so groups can collectively decide on matters that affect our Area-our Group Conscience, 3. To carry on 12 Step work that may not be practical for Groups, Districts, or Intergroups to perform.</p> <p>Aaron, (sound tec) is the timer with a buzzer- Please avoid cross talk- When asking questions or commenting please go to the microphone and state your name and service position – Please keep comments on topic -</p> <p>When making motions, seconds or voting, Members who can vote are GSR’s or their alternate if GSR is not there, DCM’s or alternate if their DCM is not there, Area Officers and Area Committee Chairs</p> <p>Agenda Item Sharing Sessions facilitated by Delegate, Diane Riihiluoma. Agenda Item discussion ended at 4:10 p.m.</p> <p>OFFICER REPORTS</p> <p>DELEGATE-DIANE R</p> <p>Hi,</p> <p>We have not received minutes from the January General Service Board meeting.</p> <p>I attended the West Central Regional Alcoholic Anonymous Service Conference (WCRAASC) in Casper, WY. There were 365 registrations, with 209 in person. All General Service Conference Agenda Items were discussed.</p> <p>There were four General Sharing Sessions. Two of them focused on our financial reality and responsibility, while the other two emphasized making every voice count and asking for help through delegation. Contributions are used to keep our doors open, provide public information, maintain meeting schedules and websites, send our representatives to service functions, and pay rent. It is essential to inform the groups about the use of their contributions, as we do not accept outside donations. Communication within our fellowship is crucial. We listen to each other and continue to value all the voices in the rooms. Our efforts are concentrated on the spiritual entity rather than the material entity. Remember, we have no membership to increase, no money, no property, no prestige, and no business corporation that will divert us from our primary spiritual aim. Delegating is a way to involve others in carrying the message to still suffering alcoholics.</p> <p>My favorite session is the presentations and questions answered by the past trustees from our West Central Region. These are some of my takeaways.</p> <div><div></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none">· It was important to reach out and offer support to other alcoholics.· Studying the Traditions guides the group's actions and maintains unity.· Prayer and a loving God in the group's conscience are important in making group decisions.· The group needs to study the Traditions, not just read them, to fully understand and implement them.· It is not only important to trust the Trustees but to express concerns about the implementation of the Code of Conduct. We have our traditions as a Code of Conduct.</div></div>	<div><div></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none">· There is a need for transparency and the flow of information to maintain trust within the fellowship.· Rulemaking can cause division, and trust is essential for unity.· Focus on the importance of maintaining trust and working towards the group's principles.· It is a privilege to be part of a group, and the group has the responsibility to create unity.· There is an upcoming rotation of the General Service Board, and we will need good leaders.· Question whether the program is adequately represented, and do we have the issue of unrecovered alcoholism?· It is important to practice the principles in all affairs or risk the potential loss of long-term spiritual awakening.· Recommended reading is Dr. Harry Tiebout's work in A.A. Comes of Age to understand the challenges of ego, selfishness, and self-centeredness. (Pages 245-251)· Stress the importance of the Traditions for group unity and the need to introduce and practice the Traditions for Harmony.</div></div> <p>As the conference approaches, a lot of information is coming in. The General Service Conference will be held from April 27, 2025, to May 3, 2025. We will be busy from the moment we arrive until we leave, with no time for sightseeing. Thank you for allowing me to be of service. I will be available to attend your district and present a report from the conference. I have three report presentations scheduled for May. Please call or email me to arrange a suitable time.</p> <p>In the conference manual, specifically in the section on How the Conference Operates (Appendix W of the A.A. Service Manual), it was noted that this section had been edited. Forty-nine other delegates and I wrote a letter to Scott H and Bob W, expressing our disagreement with the changes. Scott H stated he had the authority to make these changes. Warranty 3 states, 'None of the conference members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others.' Warranty 4 states, 'All important decisions should be reached by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity.'</p> <p>I received an email regarding the International Conference with an attached flyer. The flyer pointed to a link selling mugs with the International Conference Logo and the email said there was Trustee’s Committee approval for this. I did not forward the email as it is a violation of our seventh tradition. It can also create an issue with the logo which is Warranty Five. There was no conference agenda item to sell mugs through an online business. It also implies affiliation with an online business. We receive seventy-five cents for each mug sold.</p> <p>There have been two resignations from the Board. Morgan B., a Non-Trustee Director, resigned effectively immediately. Kevin Prior, Class A Trustee and GSB Treasurer, will not accept another year and will resign effective immediately after the conference.</p> <p>Pat M. and I had a busy month presenting the discussion on the General Service Conference Agenda Items. Thank you to Districts 13, 11, 5, 6, 21, 16, 8, and 9. We enjoyed the discussion and listening to your comments. I hope you brought your group conscience with you today. May the love for our fellowship be with us this weekend. Thank you, Pat M., for all your help and support.</p> <p>In Service Diane R</p> <p>ALTERNATE DELEGATE – PAT M</p> <p>Hello I am Pat and I'm an alcoholic. I'm also area 35 alternate delegate, panel 74. So what have I been up to? I attended the West Central regional conference in Casper Wyoming. I have to say it was one of the best conferences I have attended over the years. I had the privilege of meeting all the new panel 75 alternate delegates. It really amazes me, to see all the past delegates and trustees that come to the conference. Talking with them and learning what they think of what's going on in AA today, and if it's heading in the right</p>
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direction. I especially enjoyed Carl B. closing remarks on the 12th traditions. Carl said unity is all of us getting along because of working of the traditions and getting along. I always enjoy listening to Carl. I had a young man share my room with me who was a GSR and such an amazing man to listen to, he has one hell of a story. I believe that all GSR'S should get a chance to come to the conference.

I have been working on the winter workshop for January 2026 at the Red Rock hotel and suites in Hibbing Minnesota. Guest speaker will be Jimmy Dean of Southwest Texas. I am really looking forward to meeting Jimmy in person and hearing his story.

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

AREA CHAIR – VICKI R

Since the Feb ACM I have prepared the materials for this assembly.

I attended WCRAASC by zoom Feb 28 – Mar 2. I enjoyed the discussion and presentations, especially the research done on data – financial and membership.

The Area Officers met by Teams to finalize the GSR Orientation presentation.

I was invited to speak at the MNYPAA conference in Duluth on March 15, 2025, on service. The group is very enthusiastic, and I was encouraged that AA will do well with the upcoming members.

I sent out a link to the Delegate Resume to all DCMs to your Area email.

Please let me know if you received it, as no one has replied. I have a copy here if you need one.

I contacted Area 36 Chair Matt Bye because the dates aren’t aligned, we will get a new date and send it out soon.

Area officers finalized the proposed changes to the Statement of Financial Responsibility and redlined copies are on the table.

Fall Assembly in Ely is a voting assembly. We will vote for a new delegate, alternate delegate, and area officers so please plan to attend.

Coffee is projected to cost about \$1200 this weekend, if you can contribute more to offset that please do.

Marc, our Archivist, is requesting someone that is willing to support him carrying totes and materials for the rest of this rotation. He will complete this rotation and will continue preserving audio files but plans to step aside next rotation. If you have an interest in Archives and think you may want to step in next Jan, helping him the rest of the year will be good training.

In grateful service,
Vicki R

SECRETARY – DENISE R

I attended the West Central Regional Service Conference virtually this year and was grateful to be able to participate throughout the weekend.

I completed and distributed the minutes from the February Area Committee Meeting. I am also part of the Ad hoc Committee Group for Trusted Servant Guidelines and our Area Actions Book. We look forward to presenting information on the new business.

Please submit reports to me by Sunday April 12th. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Denise R

TREASURER – HEIDI B

Hello Area, 35 –

I apologize for missing this assembly. Family obligations prevent me from being there. I’m so grateful for my sobriety, as it allows me to be there for my family when they need me. That wasn’t true in my drinking days, and I owe my life to AA, my HP and all of you.

A brief look at the March financials are below. Printed Income, Expense and Contribution Statements are on the literature table. The Previous Year account balance is in the same packet as the IEC statements, on the last page. Please share these with your groups. And remember to check my totals against contributions that your group has sent to me. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Income	March	YTD
Contributions	3,532	12,713
Birthday, Special	5	85
Literature	3,580	3,700
Grapevine		111
Other		2,526
Total Income	\$7,117	\$19,135
Expenses		
Events	60	3,318
Literature	1,063	4,171
Grapevine		316
Other Expenses	4,392	11,494
Total Expense	\$5,515	\$19,299
Net Profit(Loss)	\$1,602	(\$164)

Friendly reminder, 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 the check and no phone number for following up.

If you don’t know your group number, please contact Phyllis at groupepre-cords@area.org or me at treasurer@area35.org.

Thank you for letting me serve,
Heidi

OLD BUSINESS

-Intergroup Links on Area 35 website – This is a tabled motion from the Fall Assembly –

Motion to add all Intergroups back to Area 35 Website -
Discussion-
- By removing we are not supporting a service entity of AA – past decision was based on personalities hidden misinformation isn’t relevant , there have been changes- restore all to the website
-Historical information on St. Cloud Intergroup- Area 36 or Area 35 were contacted by anybody when SCI started . There is no “Central MN” defined in our service Area- last rotation Area 35 Chair and Group Records were notified a board member of SCI “pirated” information from some Districts in Area 35 – page 169 in Service manual number 6 about intergroups that Assurances of keeping with the 12 Traditions.
-Page 19 of service manual- number 3- To carry out Twelfth Step work that may not be practical for groups, district or intergroups to take on by themselves etc... are we doing that or are we stopping the Intergroups from helping us do that?
-My experience cooperating with Central Officers/Intergroups have been positive except for members of St. Cloud Intergroup- they operate in a way not consistent with other Central Officers/Intergroups - they do not want to cooperate, have direct representation of groups serving the management of the Intergroup. My vote would be to add links to Intergroups/Central Offices that do operate appropriately, but not ones that do not.
- Two Members came to our home group with SCI marketing materials to market them to my Group and throughout District 5- there is history of manipulation/back door dealings- they don’t work in cooperation with Districts, St. Cloud is surrounded by Districts 5,7,13, 15 and 18, those Districts have GSR’s, DCM’s, Committee Chairs that service the groups in those Districts.
- Dangerous for us to decide what is a healthy Intergroup and what isn’t, GSO has a process to go through to become a Central Office/Intergroup, they’ve done that- It would be dishonest to pick and choose Intergroups to post on our Website – Mission statement of Area Website-help us carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous regardless of the source.
-Long form Tradition 3 – are we denying anyone from being a group? Are we following Tradition 3 if we are blocking any intergroup from our Website?
- Going off Tradition 3 no group having an outside affiliation-Tradition 6 long form is about affiliation or endorsement actual or implied, SCI is affiliated with Recovery Community Network (RCN) - both meet in same office building, same suite. So intertwined the newcomer would not have a clear idea of what AA is. SCI did not go through proper channels to be listed with GSO- Area and District were never contacted, employees at Group Services didn't do their job.
-We’ve been speaking on this 1 and half years- We are 119 miles north this doesn’t affect us; I can’t vote on a particular intergroup I don’t deal with – we have Duluth Intergroup which is great-
- A lot of time talking about this causing disunity for us-
- going with Traditions 6 affiliation concerning SCI- they moved from St. Cloud Alano to Recovery Community Network (RCN) due to inability to pay rent- SCI used to pay for 24hr phone line- it is now free since moving to RCN-SCI no longer pays rent, or their phone line and now uses RCN’s PO Box- this goes against the Traditions- Current members of SCI don’t seem to care about our Traditions
-Sandstone area Group would like Intergroups in general to be put on the

website to help the Alcoholic
-AAWS does not have a formal paper trail to start a Central Office/
Intergroup, page 169 in service manual has guidelines but no form to fill out-
-experience with registering groups- member of SCI sent information to reg-
ister groups that they were not GSR or Contact person for- did not attend the
meeting- misinformation and old information given to get groups registered-
tip of iceberg- I came to this position open minded- I am not open minded to
this Intergroup anymore
-How many Intergroups do we have in Area 35? 2- Duluth and St. Cloud-
we are talking about 2 Intergroups on our Website? Twin Ports Intergroup in
Duluth does not have a website- no webmaster for Twin Ports Intergroup for
years- It's SCI or none, how much longer are we going to discuss this- it
doesn't really affect us in Duluth
-**Motion to Call the Question- Motion passed with substantial unanimity**
-**Vote on "Motion to Add All Intergroups back to the Area 35 Website"-**
Motion Failed-
Minority Opinion- Unfortunate this motion was worded the way it was-
Our Area reaches into southern Minnesota- as an Area we can agree to
certain requirements for Intergroups/central offices we are willing to
cooperate with, once vetted, willing to follow guidelines, we could look at
adding those Intergroups-

NEW BUSINESS

-**Technology Ad hoc Committee Update-** Julie DCM District 6 presented

Hello area 35

Julie Nordquist from district 6 DCM, chair for ad hoc committee for virtual
meetings at ACM and assemblies. On committee Jennifer, Terry, Kyle,
Mark, Terri, Dennis, Scott as past delegate.

We have a lot to consider here. 1st, I would like to ask everyone to close
their eyes. Take a deep breath in.....exhale OK

Take this minute to feel this energy in this room. What do you hear? what do
you smell? what do you see? Did you see someone new that you've never
seen before, did you welcome them? How about a person that has been
around for a very long time, you see them at all these functions? Did you see
an old friend? Did you catch up with them? How did that hug feel? Did you
have a few tasty meals? And how about some really good laughs? Could you
go on a break and ask questions freely? Could you feel the passion of your
fellow AA.

Before, I started coming to these assemblies and ACM's. I compared myself
as just a member of AA. I considered you as THEM. Someone that had more
power I couldn't trust you because I didn't know who you were.

Until I walked in these rooms of an assembly as a GSR I started to have an
understanding what they are, and I started to trust people in this room. Not
because I see their name in the northern light because I see you out at the
restaurants. I seen you standing up at the mic I could recognize you. I just
think about how a lot of us don't trust GSO, is it because we don't see them
in the meetings and only their name in letters? Could be.

I Asked the committee members to ask younger generations an older genera-
tion what they thought about going to virtual meetings. Most of their re-
sponse was they feel uncomfortable but they felt more comfortable when
they learned on how to use their device.

If we go virtual and figure out what it could look like at an assembly or
ACM, we have options. First option would be 100% virtual meetings. You
can be at home or in your car going to the grocery store getting bugged by
household members or even be on a family vacation while still attending
your assembly and trying to focus on what's going on. Second option hybrid
still having the meeting in person but you can stay home if you can't make it.
Third option, just continue doing what we're doing today. Meeting in person.

I had my alternate DCM go to the West central because I could not make it.
She had spoken to a lot of the delegates and DCMS that were attending. We
are the only ones in the West central that is not virtual in some kind of ca-
pacity. She reported back saying that it is convenient for their committee
members to attend but sometimes attendance is lower than normal. Some of
the delegates reported back saying that they lost quite a bit of members when
they went virtual but now is doing well.

Some of the good things about having a virtual assembly or ACM is that it is
more accessible to the deaf and handicap. Also, More GSR's can attend from
smaller groups because their group would not be able to afford \$900 a year
to send their GSR to the assemblies and workshop for hotel stays alone. We
would save money doing our ACM online for space to rent.

I suppose you have your own opinion on the subject. But before I sit down,
I'd like to go ahead and share what it would cost Kyle and Terry Mark put
this together for us. What they would recommend is purchasing a few camer-

as, one higher end for the front of the room and one on a lower end for the
microphone in the audience if one is being used. Both cameras would be
Participate in teams meeting and be connected to a laptop. We should be able
to use two of our existing position laptops for this. This would allow video
and audio from both mics. If we wanted to go on the low end we could get
by with the high-end camera if we keep the question mic within range of the
camera this would not be ideal but could certainly work one camera option
camera 699 dollars cables 100 to \$200. 2 camera option cameras \$1000 and
cables 150 to \$250 we may want to include a dedicated Laptop to this option,
which would be about 3 to \$400. So High end is \$1650 and low end is \$700.
Mark also has a unit he would be willing to sell area 35 for lease money. WE
already pay for teams.

In closing are we doing this for accessibility or convenience.

In service godspeed, Julie N

The committee brought the information to the Assembly and it's up to this
Assembly to decide what to do with the information. Does the Area want to
go hybrid or virtual? -

What does the total start up price up? \$1,600.00 at the high end, \$600.
for low end

Sharing virtual experience from West Central Regional- We don't clap
when people share at the microphone, online participants were clap-
ping through use of emoji's etc. the sound was not good, Do we
have tec savvy people in Area 35 to help with this? Not as easy as
we may think-

Technology talked about from the Ad hoc Committee using the camera
at the last 2 corrections workshop- experience was good- we would
use our sound system and using 360 cameras, use of emoji and
other items can be restricted by the host.

Would this be part of an existing position or are we creating a new posi-
tion?- at this time it would be part of the web/tec committee

Things to consider- do hotels in Northern MN have Internet? If we have
breakout sessions, each Committee Chair will need a computer to
hold their Committee meetings virtually- Wyoming does not have
hybrid and people do not want their pictures filmed-

Chair clarified there is no motion on the floor at this time-

Put this on the Fall Agenda for discussion

The fellowship is a big part of the Assembly- you can't do that virtually
There is a place and time to meet virtually but it doesn't replace this
fellowship we have this weekend-

Discussion ended

-**West Central Regional Forum-** Jim K was contacted regarding the Forum-
Northern MN will be the host of the 2027 Regional Forum and we have to
look for locations that we can hold this event at, Jim is in charge of putting
forward those suggestions. We have a limited number of possibilities here in
Northern MN- possible places may be Brainerd, Duluth, St. Cloud, Hibbing,
Bemidji etc. If you know of a site that would work for this, conference
room to hold 300 people, 4-6 break out rooms holding 75-100, both rooms
less than \$5000 a day and sleeping rooms at \$149 or lower- close to an Air-
port? Biggest thing is there is a place that is large enough? If you think so,
please let Jim know-

-**PRO/Con Discussion on Simple Majority/ Substantial Unanimity 2/3rd
for voting-** Marc N. and Scott A. presented- Scott - How do we use it in
Alcoholics Anonymous? at the General Service Conference?- Substantial
unanimity is used in all matters of Policy which is all Advisory Actions at
the Conference- We use Roberts Rules loosely, there is no perfect way of
doing it, every structure has their own ideas and it seems to work- Roberts
rules are designed to protect the minority against the tyranny of the majority.
Majority vote is a fundamental requirement to pass a motion, which we do
all the time here. Majority simply stated is simply more than half- some
examples given were Let's have a Zoom training for GSR's- Let's break for
lunch etc. simple majority votes- Examples of possible 2/3rd vote would be
changing rules/policies of the Assembly - like how we rotate where to hold
our Assemblies-, To close or limit debate on a motion, to prevent considera-
tion of a motion like floor actions at the GSC. Passing the Area Budget,

Marc presented – In favor of substantial unanimity 2/3 eligible voters- keep it simple – We are servants of our membership we are not studied on our parliamentary procedures, DCM’s, GSR’s and ordinary members that come in have no experience with this. Unlike the General Service Conference Delegates, Trustees, the voters at the Assemblies and ACMs are not necessarily knowledgeable with Robert’s Rules as they could be. On a 2-year rotation many don’t understand the rules of voting; eligibility is often questioned. The current practice of counting votes is acceptable, we have a simple method of counting the votes and determining the majority by the number of votes cast not the number of eligible voters. The current method of electing Officers is 2/3rd using paper ballots, 3rd Legacy voting is used, sometimes the 1st, 2nd, 3rd 4th voting totals are different. Each vote may have differences in how many members vote- We use 2/3rd of whatever the total number of votes are.

Delegate Resume- If your District wants to nominate a person for the Delegate position and need a Delegate Resume, please see Chair-

August Area Committee Meeting- Chair will plan to offer a virtual option during the August ACM to allow GSR’s to vote if there are any Proposed Agenda Items to consider.

Draft Statement of Financial Responsibility- Motion made by Kathy M. to approve the State of Financial Responsibility presented, seconded by Bud M. - Discussion none- Motion passed

Calendar of Events – see Page 24 of the Northern light- Joint workshop coming up as well as June 1st ACM

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION
Area Chair opened the meeting at 9 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED-
State Fair Booth – Randy A. presented that some districts were concerned that this was a commitment that some wanted to bring back. Some options would be to have GSR’s take it back to their home groups to discuss and vote on at the Fall Assembly, The Groups and members are the ones to decide and also the ones to fulfil the commitment. We could consult with the PI Chair of Area 36 to see if they are willing to sign up members of Area 35 to fill time slots of the commitment. We also have the option of leaving as it is. Last year we had 5 members of Area 35 to fill all the time slots for the week-end. Some members that signed up cancelled and Area 36 helped to fill our time slots. Remember if you vote in favor of doing this you are willing to fulfill the commitment. A reminder that the Area does not reimburse for expenses. Anyone that signs up for this service pays for it out of their own pocket, which includes the cost of parking, entry to the fair, gas, etc... This is a good opportunity to give back. It is up to the Group Conscience of Area 35 not me the PI Chair. As Chair I will do what you would like.

-Discussion- How does Area 36 feel about us pulling out and then coming back in? The PI position of Area 36 has been vacant and have not talked with their representative. They are aware of our decision not to participate this year. Our contribution to this was \$700.00
- I volunteered and found it an enjoyable experience- we talked with another suffering alcoholic and thought it was a great opportunity to carry the message-
- We had a meeting this morning about service work. What length are we willing to go to help another alcoholic? Great opportunity to reach people, even if only 1 or 2 people is worth it. I am all for it
- District 7 has been in touch with Area 36 discussing this- they do not have a PI Chair but are receptive to having volunteers from individual groups or getting Districts together to help. Any other Districts or Groups that want to help can contact Jess S. District 7 DCM.
♦ Our group talked about this extensively and we have agreed to support any of our members financially who are willing to go. We are willing to go to other Groups and talk with them about this. Fairs are a fun, friendly and unique opportunity for us to help the still suffering alcoholic
♦
Motion by Joel to “have PI Chair summarize and send out information to DCM’s to be discussed at the Fall Assembly, to recommit to the State Fair”-seconded by John
-We need to step up and commit to volunteering and putting money in the basket to support it even if it means passing an extra basket. **Motion Passes**

Guidelines Committee Recommendation for Voting Members- Denise presented- the Ad hoc committee would like to add to the Actions Book a separate section titled “Voting Members” to include **Voting members of the Area Committee Meeting** – Are the Area Committee Members which consist of Area Officers, Area Committee Chairs, District Committee Members (DCM) (Alternate DCM if DCM not present) **Voting members of the Area Assembly** - Will consist of General Service Representatives(GSR) (Alternate GSR if GSR not present,) District Committee Members (DCM) (Alternate DCM is DCM not present), Area Committee Chairs, and Area Officers
Special Area Assembly of the Area Committee Meeting- Primarily held during the August Area Committee Meeting to discuss any Proposed Agenda Items (PAI)s for the General Service Conference (GSC) however, this will be the policy of any such gathering – Only during the Assembly portion of the Area Committee Meeting will General Service Representatives(GSR) (Alternate GSR if GSR not Present) have voting privileges

Voting Privileges include – Introducing motions, second motions, amend motions, table motions etc.
Motion Procedures - Voting Members Only – Introduce yourself by providing name and service position. Given 2 minutes to introduce and state reason for motion- If motion has a second, discussion begins - If there is not second to the motion, the motion dies-
Committee Recommendations - Any recommendation from an Area Committee is considered a motion with a second, ready to be discussed and voted on-
Any Member may discuss motion-
Motion by Denise to add Voting Members Document to the Area Actions book- John Second
Discussion – The Archivist and Sound Tec do not have a vote per the current guidelines, concerns about Committee Recommendations section-
Friendly amendment motion to remove “Committee Recommendations” section, Steve T. Second motion
Motion passes

COMMITTEE CHAIR AND DCM REPORTS

WEBMASTER – TERRY P
Hello,

Since February ACM it has been a little bit quiet. There were a few updates to the calendar to be made. I have been doing some cleanup of old and outdated information, which will be followed by some possible requests for updated similar info to replace it. A how-to session was held in March. There were only 2 attendees, thank you to the archives crew for showing up.

I would like to assume that means there are no tech issues for anybody else but that seems unlikely. If you have issues with anything on our technology platform, please reach out to me so we can discuss it directly and handle it promptly. It is impossible to deal with vague third-party concerns. You do not have to be available for the planned sessions, just email or call me.

As it usually goes, halfway through the rotation I have a pretty good handle on the admin functions and am proactively updating some items to address the issues that have popped up periodically with the login experience. If you are a DCM or Area officer/committee chair, check your information on the contact lists to make sure it is accurate. This information will be used for updating authentication methods.

DCMs I do need a personal email fi you would like to use email as your default authentication methods. Just a general note, we hear a lot about not being tech savvy and how that is a barrier, but we are not savvy about anything we have not learned. As technology is more mature it also gets more user-friendly, and it is not going away. If you want to learn, reach out. If I do not know how to do it, we will learn together.

Thank you,
Terry

NORTHERN LIGHT – JENNIFER T
If anyone would like to receive the Northern Light, please contact me or group records to get on the mailing list. It seems our past mailing issues have resolved themselves. I want to thank Michelle who picked up the extra copies and brought them to the assembly for distribution. Thank you to everyone who has submitted articles and flyers.

I was asked to highlight how the Northern Light gets to the website from the GSR’s attending the sharing session at Spring Assembly. Once the meeting minutes are submitted from the assembly and completed by our area secretary, the paper copy gets sent to the publisher and mailed. The area records chair updates the mailing list prior to each mailing and it gets forwarded to the publisher. At the next Area Committee Meeting (ACM) in Aitken MN, the minutes will be approved (June). Once approved, a second Northern Light is published digitally and is anonymous (members are de-identified and personal address/phone numbers/e-mails are removed). This anonymous version is sent to our area webmaster to be placed on the area website.

Kindly, Jennifer

DISTRICT 3 – MELVIN S

District 3 meets at noon every 3rd Sunday at the Perham Alano Club. The district brings men’s meetings to four county jails, Clay, Becker, Ottertail and Wadena, and two treatment centers Lake's counseling in Detroit Lakes and Rewind in Perham.

Paul C. our alternate DCM and I attended the WCRR via zoom on Feb.28. Although we weren’t there in person, we felt that we learned much about the agenda items. We then tag teamed at the district meeting on 3/16 and managed to get through the agenda items smoothly.

I have been visiting groups in the Moorhead and Dilworth area, talking briefly about the agenda and checking in with them, letting their meetings know district 3 is still there. I did find that 2 of the meetings were not on the meeting app. but were listed on Dist.3 paper schedule. With Phyllis in Group Records we realized that one group failed to update their group change form and the other never registered with GSO! In Service, Melvin

(Continued from page 7)

GROUP RECORDS – PHYLLIS K

- I attended the WCRSC via Zoom. I have the list of Hot Topics ready to go for the Spring Assembly.
- I attended the March registrar monthly meeting from GSO. It is very interesting to see how other areas handle group registrations.
- I attended the quarterly registrar meeting with GSO. There are many questions and unique situation in the USA and Canada.

GSR/Contact People: +4 and -1

Meeting Guide: +1 group, 1 group address change, and 5 contact changes

Mailing List: +1 and 9 (returned undeliverable addresses has improved

New Groups: I was registered last month and became active 3/18 in Brainerd.

District Changes: +1 and -1 (literature chair)

Help Messages: 10
Do I have to call someone before I go to a meeting?
How can I get help for my mother who is drinking too much and denying it?
Help me-I can't go on this way
Do I have to register to bring a group of people with me to a meeting?
How do I find a meeting for my son?
Can I attend a meeting to just listen?
How do I find Zoom meetings?
How does a meeting get put in the Meeting Guide?

Thanks,
Phyllis

CPC – MARY S

Greetings,

It’s hard to believe that I am 4 months into my second year as CPC Area 35 Committee Chair.

It is an honor to service in this capacity. I am open to any ideas and sugges-tions on how I could support your District in providing information to the Professionals. I’m retired now, but when I was a Professional in Grand Rap-ids, which is District 16, it was always a bit awkward to step out publicly wearing my AA hat, but now that I am retired, it’s getting much easier.

I attended the West Central Regional Conference via the internet. I recently learned that a woman I attempted to guide into the rooms of AA died of alco-holism, unfortunately others tried too, and the disease was stronger than the ability to quit drinking. 63 is too young to die. I encourage those of us who have the time and desire to speak to the Professionals in your District, if pos-sible, leave AA Directories and AA literature.

Professionals that could be contacted include Athletic Coaches, Educators, Employers, Healthcare Professionals, Juvenile Services professionals, Public health Employee’s, Senior Service professionals, Social Workers, Union offi-cials. You may be able to think of others.... But as we all know, it can mean the difference between life and death. As I live one day at a time with the Guidance from my Higher Power, and receive friendship and support from members of AA, I can continue living a life of sobriety and gratitude.

Thank you,

Mary S

DISTRICT 18 – STEVE T.

District attendance has been down. We have finally found somebody to re-place our Literature Chair. Drunk on Ice had 2 new venues, the 2nd was well attended. Ten different chilis were made for the potlucks. Our website is up and running and we continue to have some minor issues, but our web chair is able to address those concerns in a timely fashion. The best think going on in our district is we like to eat and Round Robins are in full swing. Our CPC/PI is very active contact agencies. We’re in Morrison and Todd County Jails. District meeting is 1st Tuesday at 5:30 at Long Prairie Alano.

Yours in Service,
Steve T.

DISTRICT 15 – FRED T.
My name is Fred and I'm an alcoholic, DCM for District 15.

Our district meeting meets on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00pm at the Albany Senior Center. One GSR did attend the GSR orientation meeting online on Feb. 15. He stated that he did get a lot out of it.

I did attend the online version of the West Central Regional Service Confer-ence. Though I was unable to tune into the Saturday evening line up due to another AA commitment. I did attend the hot topic agenda items meeting with District 13 held at the St. Cloud Alano with our Alt- Delegate Pat M. on March 31. It prompted me to do research on some of those items.

The Stearns County Roundup on March 22 was well attended with 159 meals served. Both Ray the AA speaker and Tanya the Alanon speaker were well received. Thank you again Mike Area Literature chair and Terry our Area Grapevine chair for attending. We also had Paul from Area 36 District 17 come with his Archive display which had many positive comments. Mark from Alanon also attended. Thanks to the many volunteers working to make the night run smooth. Including many who stepped up during the event that seen something that needed doing and did it. Our current Literature chair has resigned. Hopefully we will get a volunteer at the next district meeting.

In Service,
Fred T.

LITERATURE – MIKE U
Present- no report given for minutes

DISTRICT 12 – RICHARD G
So grateful to see several new GSR’s at March District meeting, anxious to discuss Conference Agenda items (at least twice as much and represented groups that haven’t been there for a long time).

DULYPAA Rep also there and will continue as well as donate to the general service structure.

Our Corrections Committee continues to put meetings into St. Louis and Douglas County jail and recently added the Federal Prison. Our Veterans Outreach is having more success with our District Website card (complete with QR code).

Our updated District Pamphlet is near completion and is aimed at existing groups and will be distributed to as many groups as possible.

Yours in Service,
Rich G

DISTRICT 5 – CHAD O
Hello All,

District 5 meets at 7pm on the 3rd Monday every month, we meet at Trinity Lutheran Church in Princeton. We’re back to full strength with all of our positions filled; however, we’re always looking for alternates at these posi-tions. With that said we started discussions at our business meeting last month about the spirit of rotation and seeking out our replacements for 2026. Encouraging current GSR’s to consider District positions as they rotate out of GSR and also bring the service opportunity back to their groups.

District 5 held a District inventory in March as well, a big shout out to Kelly D. for facilitating our inventory, much appreciated. Our secretary will be putting together a recap of the ideas and suggestions that were made, and we will be discussing how to move forward at upcoming District meetings. I attended the agenda item discussion held at the Isanti Alano club and hosted by District 6. Thank you, Julie, and everyone from District 6 for hosting us again, and thank you Diane for the presentation. We had 7 GSR’s from Dis-trict 5 present as well which is awesome!

We have a new(er) GSR that has brought forward an idea about a new meet-ing card with a QR code and an interactive map with meeting locations in the district, county jails, treatment facilities, etc. I’m super excited to explore this idea with the rest of the District at our next meeting, so, standby for more details as we move forward.

With all the good news, unfortunately ,there is some bad news. We have been asked to leave a speaking opportunity we had at a treatment facility. The fa-cility coordinator said that someone had spoken about an inappropriate topic or shared some inappropriate information. When they were asked to clarify the who, what, when, they refused to elaborate. We spoke as a district and decided to wait a couple of months and then approached the facility again to see where things stood.

District 5 continues to bring a men's meeting into the Mille Lacs County jail every Tuesday night. We are working with the jail staff on getting a women's meeting started here as well. District 5 also brings meetings into the Sher-burne County Jail on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. These are for both men and women.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your District 5 DCM.
Chad O.

DISTRICT 16 – DAVE C

TREATMENTS – KYLE HOWARD

Present- No report given for minutes

DISTRICT 6 – JULIE NORDQUIST

We hold our district meeting on the third Thursday of the month at Spring Lake Lutheran Church in north branch at 7:00 PM. I have made a few meetings within the district we have more chair positions available. That means, it's time to get back out there and have some fun, I will be making a calendar for tailgate for this coming spring and summer. Whoop whoop. Kathy and I attended district 8 CPC luncheon they did an amazing job. They made it so easy looking we are planning a six month out for our reach out to the community. See you all at the ACM in June we have Diane coming out on 818 to report back from New York.

Godspeed in service Julie N

DISTRICT 7 – JESS SKOGMAN

Greetings from District 7

I am sad to not be there with you all this weekend, but I had personal matters to tend to, I know this group understands & I am grateful for that.

Our district meeting is held the third Thursday of each month, at First Congregational Church in Brainerd, 415 Juniper St. Brainerd, MN at 7:00 pm.

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 & is forming a committee to host a CPC/PI Luncheon. Our Grapevine/Literature Chair, Mike, is always pushing Grapevines at our meetings & reports that he has been spending some time organizing our archives in District 7. Mike also takes care of our district hotline and reported calls have been down for the last couple of months. District7online.org has been kept up to date by Bob & I am very grateful for his help with that process. I did attend the West Central Regional Service Conference in Casper, WY & thought it was a wonderful conference. The presentations were great, and the weekend went well. As far as Corrections, we do have several groups bringing meetings into jails, and we are grateful for their service. Crow Wing County Jail is hosting a Transition Fair in May that we plan to be present at.

Our District is hosting a Sponsorship Workshop on Saturday, May 3, 11:00 -2:00 at the Aitkin Alano Club. There will be presentations from sponsors and sponsees in the program, sharing their experience strength & hope in sponsorship. Flyers on the back table, we’d love to see you there! District 7 also plans to have a presence, as usual, at the Crow Wing County Fair, at the end of July. Speaking of fairs, I have been in contact with the Area 36 Chair & they do plan to continue the AA Booth at the State Fair. They were thrilled to hear that they’ll have volunteers from District 7, if there are other districts willing to be part of that collaboration, I’d love to hear from you! I will see you at the June ACM! Well wishes & safe travels for our Delegate as she is travelling to New York for the Conference to represent us (:

ARCHIVIST – MARC NOERENBERG

Hi, I'm Marc with a “C”, an Alcoholic and your current Archivist.

I have been doing mostly preservation work, and I got to say this, that I've talked often enough about the work of preserving the audio recordings. This work is ongoing.

We have received grapevine magazines from several people, groups and districts. The archive committee will sort the magazines received and identify those still missing. That's the Grapevine magazine. We would also appreciate donations of grapevine books, even though these are archived at GSO. Our area voted in 1995 or 96 to keep collecting these for our archives. Now, like I said, these are archived. They are available from GSO online with a subscription, but we've got 'em also, we've got the paper copies.

There's also a lot of effort needed to preserve our paper documents, the area, district, and group records. These are an essential part of our history. We've had a couple searches through some of those, not very many, but sometimes people ask for stuff such as was so-and-so meeting in great in a such and such a year that I can't answer that because we don't have a list of names of who was meeting, or other, other stuff like that.

We don't have all the meeting minutes for Area Assemblies and ACMs. What we do has needs to be preserved. Preserving papers is accomplished by various means. Sometimes scanning to digital format, other times preservation by deacidifying is necessary. Digitizing makes the documents

available via remote viewing, either is a tedious process and will require many hours of paper shuffling and purchase of equipment. I've been sorting these documents from various file locations into logical file arrangements first by area or district then by date.

There was a mess of things when I inherited the archives and I don't know what caused it, whether it was bad filing or just packing up the stuff from various locations. I found district notes in several different places, area minutes in several different places and not well organized. So going through this stuff and getting it organized takes some time. I do that when I'm at the archives when nobody comes to visit. So, if people come to visit, I can still do that stuff while you're reading, so please come and visit me every third Sunday, but not at Easter.

We do have an abundance of magazines from early years, and some of them have been properly preserved, some have not. These are from beyond our area, and many archives or places such as GSO archives and Publishers Archives. Nonetheless, we should be preserving the ones that we have. And another note, wherever I go, as I travel, I look for hints about AA archives stuff. And today I noticed that one of our past delegates, Duffy, is pictured out in the hallway on the Minnesota Baseball Hall of Fame. I know that is an out of scope for what we do. It's, a, what do you call it, an outside issue, but it's still interesting to see Duffy's picture out in the hallway.

Thank you for letting me serve Marc

PS: As I was packing up John (from Pierz) offered to do some digitizing of paper documents. We will connect soon to begin this process.

ARCHIVES – CATHY RAMBERG

Archives can be misunderstood. People think of archives such as history or politics or any number of subjects that are considered boring. As a former history/government teacher, I watched high school kids hate anything to do with history or government. When I said yes to becoming the Archives Chair, it never occurred to me that a great deal of the high school (“this is boring!”) attitude would be alive and present in our AA fellowship.

Wonderfully, my home group decided to read the big book from the beginning. The interesting thing is that they picked the first edition.

We read version 1 and compared it to the current version of the Big Book. Amazingly enough, we are learning from them both. The history of AA is interesting but not in the way we learned about history in high school. There are no tests, no grades or scores. We begin to understand how the world works in a sober environment and how we, as sober folks, fit into it.

Cathy R.
Archives Chair

DISTRICT 11 – KATHY MILLER

Present- No report provided for minutes

DISTRICT 14 -

CORRECTIONS – MARK RINEHART

Area 35 Corrections Action Committee & Chair Report for Spring Assembly April 6, 2025

Continued praise and gratitude to A.A. members who are volunteers in Area 35 Districts and Groups and 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.

I continue to search and attract 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. I continue to be available to help our Area 35 District Corrections Chairs & DCMs with their respective Corrections opportunities and questions/concerns.

At our Corrections Action Chair Committee meeting, we had 10 of us in attendance. Below is our status report.

GARY H. (District 11 Corrections Chair), Gary takes meetings into MCF-Rush City and Pine County jail. To date, Gary stated Kanabec County is not allowing meetings inside. There are volunteers Carrying the Message of A.A. at Sandstone Federal prison, Moose Lake, and Willow River.

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. This has impacted meetings in the Clay County jail located in Moorhead, MN!

RICCO R. (District 9 Corrections Chair), There are no corrections facilities in District 9. Ricco volunteers to bring meetings to MCF-TOGO. Ricco will be attending the MCF-Moose Lake Transition Fair on Sept 9, 2025. Ricco is also looking to help Tony S. (A35, D8 Corrections Chair) and volunteering with meetings at NERCC!

AREA OFFICER & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS

DELEGATE- DIANE R

As I am writing this, I am at the General Service Conference in New York. It has been a very busy time of the year. We start at 8:00 AM and end around 9:30 PM so far. They really have a busy schedule for us.

Before I left, I had been reading a lot of information in preparation for the conference. This year, there was a lot of background information and an inventory of the conference with 19 questions. Each question had 117 answers. It is an interesting read. There were several themes as I read through it. You will be hearing more about the inventory during my report back.

I have report-backs planned when I get back to Minnesota. Thank you to the districts that have asked me to come for a report-back. I look forward to setting up report-backs with other districts. Please call or email to set up a date.

In service,
Diane R.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE-PAT M

Hello area 35 I am an alcoholic Pat M your Alternate Delegate

I will start my report and some of my experiences at the West Central regional conference in Casper Wyoming I really enjoyed the conference this year I was able to set in all the meetings as a observer I was able to sit down with all the new 75 alternate delegates and visit with them and get to know them we have we have some amazing alternate delegates in the west central region

I also got to meet the new panel 75 delegates most of them are already all knew I got to sit down and eat breakfast with one of the 74 delegates they shared with me the struggles of being a delegate and how it really tested their love for AA But in reality and made their love for alcoholics anonymous stronger

I really enjoyed watching past delegates past trustees all come together you see their love for alcoholics anonymous and passion when they speak it is amazing to sit there and listen to their experiences and what you can learn from an elderly statesman is amazing if you just take the time to listen

I've also been working on the January workshop which will be held in Hibbing Minnesota at the Red Rock hotel and suites January 17th and 18th if you have not presented in the past workshop you will be asked to present in our 50th annual winter workshop I have an amazing speaker coming from Southwest Texas his name is Jimmy Dean I do not think you want to miss this when a workshop

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

CHAIR-VICKI R.

Area 35 Chair Report

Since Spring Assembly I have confirmed the date for the Area 35/36 Joint Workshop. It will be on Teams on Saturday, July 12 from 11am to 1pm. Area Officers and Chairs, please plan to attend, and if there is something specific to your role you want added to the agenda, please let me know. I deposited funds from Spring Assembly and deposited other checks I've received in the Area checking account. I've tallied the Spring Assembly evaluations. The results were:

2025 Spring Assembly Attendance and Evaluations Summary

119 Total Attendance (114 in 2024)

79 or 66.4% Voting members

40 or 33.6% Non-Voting Members

Of the 80 voting members:

GSR's:	57	72%	(53 - 2024)
DCM's	10	13%	
Area Committee Chairs	9	11%	
Area Officers	4	4%	

All attendees by District – voting and non-voting

District	# Attend- ed	% of Total	District	# Attend- ed	% of Total
1	0	0%	11	6	5%
3	3	3%	12	7	6%
4	1	1%	13	16	13%
5	15	13%	15	4	3%
6	13	11%	16	0	0%
7	14	12%	18	3	3%
8	18	15%	21	4	3%
9	10	8%			

GSRs (57 total – 13 (22.8%) completed evaluations - 1 First-time attendees)

What part of the assembly was most beneficial?

5	GSR Orientation	2	Area Committee Reports
4	Breakout Sessions	3	Old/New Business
9	General Agenda Item Sharing From the Floor		
0	Other (AA Meeting)		
6	GSR/DCM Sharing Sessions		

In what way did it (they) help?

Learned more information about what a GSR does

Learned some literature doesn't need to be changed and some needs to be updated

Best GSR Orientation I've been to yet – thank you

Delegate and Alt Delegate have given me hope and I feel like I belong

Nice conference

To hear other members group conscious

GSR sharing session in the afternoon was very helpful, good discussion and variety of thoughts and opinions

Further solidified my knowledge of what AA is

Do you have any other comments or suggestions for improving our next Spring Assembly?

Ice cream social is so important – pivotal for fellowship

Why aren't there more past delegates?

DCMs (10 total - 3 evaluations – 0 First-time attendees

What part of the assembly was most beneficial?

N/A	GSR Orientation	1	Area Committee Reports
2	Breakout Sessions	2	Old/New Business
0	General Agenda Item Sharing From the Floor	0	Other
2	GSR/DCM Sharing Sessions		

In what way did it (they) help? Any Suggestions?

No comments

Other Evaluations (14 evaluations – 1 First-time attendees)

What part of the assembly was most beneficial?

2	GSR Orientation	7	Area Committee Reports
4	Breakout Sessions	8	Old/New Business
9	General Agenda Item Sharing From the Floor		
1	Other (DCM Report; Ask It Basket)		
2	GSR/DCM Sharing Sessions		

In what way did it (they) help?

Knowing what is going on to report back to groups

In enjoy listening to opinions on the agenda items

Do you have any other comments or suggestions for improving our next Spring Assembly?

Meeting was kept moving along swiftly and smoothly

Great coffee – Great Assembly
Explain Acronyms
Restaurant service was slow – consider more time for meals?
More clear direction how to get to the correct room at the Convention Center – State on the flyer to look for “Area Spring Assembly”
Nice venue and conference, overall great experience
All the assembly was great
Follow the times agreed on for reports
Consider reports of GSC agenda items; old, new business after
Motions should be read and discussion limited to that motion
The discussions can be pointless if we haven’t brought it back to our District groups; Get items on the agenda and vote for it
Let’s keep it simple, slow down and not act out in fear

In grateful service,
Vicki R

SECRETARY-DENISE R.
No report given

TREASURER – HEIDI B

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

WEBMASTER – TERRY P
No report. given

NORTHERN LIGHT – JENNIFER T
No report given

GROUP RECORDS – PHYLLIS K

I hope everyone is doing well!

In a message through the Contact button on the Chair App (Minnesota Meeting Guide), I was asked why we do our Chair App the way we do it. And, why we don’t just go out and check if a meeting is still there. If a meeting is reported locked and absent, I do send a message to the DCM to please check it out.

The process we follow is to post only groups and not simply meetings to the Meeting Guide. This was agreed upon with the programmers from the start of our Minnesota plug-in into the AAWS Meeting Guide. This means we agreed to only post meetings that are registered and active with our database, Fellowship Connection (GSO). We keep a confidential contact for each meeting for 2 reasons:

- This keeps the group registered and active at GSO and identifies the meeting as a responsible group that will take care to be there for the newcomer and each other.
- This contact is entered into a confidential field so when questions come up about a group, there is someone to ask and make contact with, as well as the DCM.

I am wondering if our Minnesota Meeting Guide could publish a first name and a phone number for each meeting that someone could call before attending the meeting to see if it’s still there. Our district 9 website does this. Both the Minnesota Meeting Guide Chair App and the district websites built by Tyler were built in WordPress. Anyone know if this is possible?

Or, we could separate the Meeting Guide from GSO (Fellowship Connection) registration and post meetings and not limit it to only groups. This would take an agreement from Area 35 and Area 36 which would start with a joint Area 35/36 Committee Meeting. If passed there, then a proposal would be brought to our areas to vote on. We would need a contact system to make sure a meeting is still there for the newcomer and each other. Thoughts? If you are passionate about this process, bring your motion to your district and then our area for consideration to see if we want to approach Area 36 for a joint committee meeting, ok?

GSRs/ Contact People: + 8 and -2
Meeting Guide: +1 group. -1 group, +5 people, -1 person; 1 group change-name, address, and time
District Changes: +1 Literature Chair and +1 Corrections Chair
New Groups: +4 and 1 group folded
Mailing List for Northern Light: +6, -2, and a few address changes
3 Help Messages-a wife looking for meetings for her husband; a nurse looking for online meetings for a client; and help to find open meetings in Cloquet/Duluth.

Thanks, Phyllis K

LITERATURE – MIKE U
No report given

TREATMENT – KYLE H
No report given

PUBLIC INFORMATION – RANDY A

Greetings Area 35,

It’s been a very busy and hectic month as lots of AA activities are beginning to heat up. I've made several contacts for PI requests. I’ve received a PI activity update letter from the GSO - PI Coordinator: the new podcast from GSO titled “Our primary purpose” The new podcast launched on January 14, 2025, it can be a beneficial and useful tool.

AA Literature in local libraries, approach your local library to see if they will add literature from AAWS to their e-book catalog.

International convention: new short videos for communicating about the International Convention, it will be held July3-6, 2025 in Vancouver BC.

Young people in AA: new videos – I thought drinking made me an artist and It could save your life.

Literature changes for Public Information – Advisory Actions of the 74th General Service Conference, revisions for two PiI publications were approved: “Speaking at meetings outside of AA” (formerly speaking at non-AA meetings) was revised along with the flyer F-1 “AA at a Glance” both are available for purchase or download at a.a.org - the 74th General Service Conference also agreed to retire the flyer “A message to teenagers”

PI discount packages: under review and price increase, they are also re-evaluating what is included in the discount packages.

PSA’s - help communicate our message of hope and help the still suffering alcoholic, please reach out to your local broadcasters to air PSA’s. Local PI committees carry our message through the general public; these AA members share information about AA at schools.

Health fairs. Community events, libraries and through all forms of media including public websites. We are still in waiting to hear about having a manned booth at the “Health and Human service conference “at the DECC in Duluth on October 8-9, 2025.

Yours in Service,

Randy A.

CORRECTIONS - MARK R

CPC - MARY S

I attended the Spring Assembly in St. Cloud and I continue to feel blessed by being a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Randy A and I held a combined PI/CPC Committee Meeting which was well attended. Many ideas were shared about spreading AA’s message to the Professionals in various parts of Northern Minnesota. I truly enjoy listening to all the ideas and activities.

Dr. Silkworth was well educated but unable to figure out how to help alcoholics after leaving the hospital. And as I re-read his letters in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous I am encouraged to continue speaking to the Professionals about the program of Alcoholics Anonymous and how it has helped many maintain sobriety and live a good life.

Thank you for allowing me to be in service for Area 35.

Mary S.

ARCHIVIST – MARC N

I attended the Big Ole Roundup in March. I took a picture of the people in the auditorium that I was intending to use as part of a display at future roundups and at the 2027 WCRAASC. However, after considering that roundups and WCRAASC are not necessarily closed AA meetings, the possibility of breaking someone's anonymity exists.

I decided to discard the picture; it is my responsibility to protect the anonymity of others, not to break that anonymity without consent.

I attended the Superior Roundup in April. The exhibit was appreciated; I was

quite cordially welcomed. There were some people who helped me unload, setup, breakdown and loadout the totes/items.

The Superior Roundup was planned to be a larger exhibit than I have normally done. While selecting items for display I came to realize that our archives need significant preservation efforts. This involves much more than I can do and requires funding for equipment and materials that would be an excessive burden on Area finances. Archive Exhibits are typically the hard items (books, magazines, and other paper items). Many of these items ought to be wrapped in preservation packets, and are not, deterioration is rapidly destroying many items. This is like wrapping gifts, but with special plastic sheets and special tape; volunteers would be appreciated.

John P. has volunteered to scan paper documents to digital format. I delivered a box of documents to his home; he has been scanning away since mid-April.

Then too there is an observation that we have lots of “old” stuff but nothing new since the mid-nineties. What happened yesterday might be archivable today, a magazine or news media story concerning alcohol abuse or recovery, a movie poster depicting alcohol abuse or recovery, etc. I remember a movie from the mid-seventies, “Sarah T the Teen Aged Alcoholic”, this movie has a poster that could be in our archives just like “The Lost Weekend” or “Days of Wine and Roses”. Are there more recent examples? There is not a budget

As I shared with the Area Chair and was addressed at the spring assembly it is for health reasons that I want to step away from the archivist role. I do want to remain with the archives committee doing preservation tasks,

Thanks to the people of Area 35 for this opportunity to serve.

Archivist, Marc N

ARCHIVES – CATHY R
No report given

GRAPEVINE – TERRY A
No report. Given

Statewide Corrections Committee (SWCC) Chair Report

Our committee continues to work hard to promote A.A. Corrections Service work throughout the State of Minnesota!
Below are some of our accomplishments since our April 2, 2025 meeting.

With feedback from A.A. members from both Area 35 and Area 36, and wonderful evaluations from the previous two years, we have decided to hold the Workshop once again at Jack & Jim’s Event Center in Duelm, MN (about 12 miles NE of St Cloud, MN). Mark R. has secured the Event Center for Saturday 25, 2025.

We have a “Save the Date” flyer created and it is in distribution as of April 8, 2025! The cost of the Event Center is \$1000.00 this year (still 30% less than normal rate). The fee has been paid up front by the Area 35 Treasurer, so we are locked in and ready to hold our third Corrections Workshop at that awesome Central Minnesota location! I would like to ‘Thank You’ to Mark R. and the Area 35 Treasurer for their contributions and support to secure this location.

Now comes all the hard work in planning this year’s Corrections Workshop. Members from both Area 35 and Area 36 have been coming up with ideas for the Theme of this year’s Annual Corrections Workshop, speakers/presenters, Information Handouts, and most important, what to have for the Buffet Lunch provided On-Site at the Event Center.

The SWCC meets on the 1st Wednesday of each Month. Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 7, 2025 from 6:00-7:00 PM

JOIN TEAMS MEETING SERIES:

**Statewide Corrections Committee (SWCC) Monthly Meeting
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CST)
Occurs every month on the first Wednesday**

In Service and Gratitude,

Carter L.

Friends of Bill W.

Recently my husband and I treated ourselves to a cruise to the Hawaiian and the French Polynesian Islands. We were gone for a total of 32 days.

Soon after we boarded the ship, we spoke with the Cruise Director about having “Friends of Bill W.” meetings.

The first meeting (ironically held in a bar that was only used at nights) had 8 attendees. Wow!!! Their sobriety dates ranged from 50 years to 18 days.

We ended up having meetings about every other day or so. The regular attendees were 6 of us. Because we had a returning person with not much time we talked a great deal about the first 3 steps.

One of our main topics covered having a Higher Power. It was wonderful to listen to everyone’s stories about their Higher Powers and how they integrated them into their lives.

Over the years it has been said that the most important person at a meeting is the new person. This became abundantly clear as we had more meetings and listened to the new person’s struggle to figure out what their Higher Power was. For this alcoholic it was a spiritual review.

The other learning I came away with is to ask for what I need. Suppose I hadn’t asked for an AA meeting?

However, thanks to my Higher Power meetings were asked for and received.

Cathy R. Nashwauk,MN

Recently a newcomer showed up at our AA meeting. He shared a rather unique story with us that I would like to share with others. It seems we often don’t know what brings people to us, or in this case, back to us.

This gentleman told us that he had been sober for about six years and active in AA until a personality conflict caused him to leave AA and conduct a lengthy research project. He dedicated the next thirty-six years of his life to this effort. Along the way, both of his parents passed away. He totally isolated himself from society and lived in a primitive cabin in the woods. No electricity or running water.

One day a stray cat showed up, and he befriended that little animal. He shared that he kept seeing the little notice in our local paper about the two AA meetings in our area. As his disease worsened, even the little cat would leave him. The cat returned occasionally but left whenever the drinking became excessive.

On Christmas Eve his drinking became so bad that the cat disappeared seemingly for good. He really missed his little four-legged friend but discounted his loss as a punishment he deserved. After four months our friend decided it was time to do something about his drinking and cut the notice out of the paper and pinned it to the wall in his cabin.

He made a decision not to drink that day. That was on a Thursday, and the cat returned the very next day. Our friend saw this as a sign and made the decision to check out our local AA meeting. The next scheduled meeting was on a Tuesday, and he came into our meeting and shared this incredible story. He tells us the cat comes and goes as he pleases now but is there at the cabin to provide companionship to our new friend on a regular basis. He tells us this was a most powerful spiritual experience and does not want to minimize its importance in his new life. As of this writing, he is 1 month sober but already has a sponsor and is working on his steps.

Submitted by Brent T. District 21

TRADITION FIVE:

Upon reading this Grapevine writing in The Language Of The Heart, it ever so reminded me what our "Primary Purpose"

Is in Alcoholics Anonymous - that of Carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers alcoholism, wherever they are!

I'm alive today by the grace of God, I have an obligation, a sacred trust to never be diverted from working with another alcoholic,

My life and theirs's, depends upon it!

TRADITION SEVEN:

In Bill's Grapevine writings on Tradition Seven in The Language Of The Heart, his message of our finances is so, so simple!

Again, here, Bill speaks about the grace of God. Because of His grace, I have become a responsible citizen of the world with millions of other in our Fellowship. I believe him when he says we were all takers our whole lives, and now we have become "thankful givers". I understand what this means to me as an individual. I used to throw \$100's around 24/7/365 at the bars, today when my Group, or District, or Area, or the GSO is in need,

I do not hesitate to throw another \$5 or \$10 in the hat, I never thought twice about throwing down a \$50 or \$100 bill to buy rounds of alcohol!

I also understand the dire importance this means to our Fellowship when "Outsiders" who want to be of help financially, we need to walk away from the temptation! This is a dangerous slippery slope that we cannot afford to venture on.

Mark R

THE LANGUAGE OF THE HEART PART 1: 1944-1950

Tradition Five APRIL 1948

Says the old proverb, "Shoemaker, stick to thy last." Trite, yes. But very true for us of AA. How well we need to heed the principle that it is better to do one thing supremely well than many things badly.

Because it has now become plain enough that only a recovered alcoholic can do much for a sick alcoholic, a tremendous responsibility has descended upon us all, an obligation so great that it amounts to a sacred trust. For to our kind, those who suffer alcoholism, recovery is a matter of life or death. So the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous cannot, it dare not, ever be diverted from its primary purpose.

Temptations to do otherwise will come aplenty. Seeing fine works afoot in the field of alcohol, we shall be sorely tempted to loan out the name and credit of Alcoholics Anonymous to them; as a movement we shall be beset to finance and endorse other causes. Should our present success continue, people will commence to assert that AA is a brand-new way of life, maybe a new religion, capable of saving the world. We shall be told it is our bounden duty to show modern society how it ought to live.

Oh, how very attractive these projects and ideas can be! How flattering to imagine that we might be chosen to demonstrate that olden mystic promise: "The first shall be last and the last shall be first." Fantastic, you say. Yet some of our well-wishers have begun to say such things.

Fortunately, most of us are convinced that these are perilous speculations, alluring ingredients of that new heady wine we are now being offered, each bottle marked "Success"!

Of this subtle vintage may we never drink too deeply. May we never forget that we live by the grace of God—on borrowed time; that anonymity is better than acclaim; that for us as a movement poverty is better than wealth.

And may we reflect with ever deepening conviction, that we shall never be at our best except when we hew only to the primary spiritual aim of AA. That of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers alcoholism.

THE LANGUAGE OF THE HEART PART 1: 1944-1950

Tradition Seven JUNE 1948

Our growth continuing, the combined income of Alcoholics Anonymous members will soon reach the astounding total of a quarter of a billion dollars yearly. This is the direct result of AA membership. Sober we now have it; drunk we would not.

By contrast, our overall AA expenses are trifling. For instance, the AA General Service Office now costs us \$1.50 per member a year. As a fact, the New York office asks the groups for this sum twice a year because not all of them contribute. Even so, the sum per member is exceedingly small. If an AA happens to live in a large metropolitan center where an intergroup office is absolutely essential to handle heavy inquiries and hospital arrangements, he contributes (or probably should contribute) about \$5.00 annually. To pay the rent of his own group meeting place, and maybe coffee and doughnuts, he might drop \$25.00 a year in the hat. Or if he belongs to a club, it could be \$50.00. In case he takes the AA Grapevine, he squanders an extra \$2.50!

So the AA member who really meets his group responsibilities finds himself liable for about \$5.00 a month on the average. Yet his own personal income may be anywhere between \$200 and \$2,000 a month—the direct result of not drinking.

"But," some will contend, "our friends want to give us money to furnish that new clubhouse. We are a new small group. Most of us are still pretty broke. What then?"

I am sure that myriads of AA voices would now answer the new group saying: "Yes, we know just how you feel. We once solicited money ourselves. We even solicited publicly. We thought we could do a lot of good with other peoples' money. But we found that kind of money too hot to handle. It aroused unbelievable controversy. It simply wasn't worth it. Besides, it set a precedent which has tempted many people to use the valuable name of Alcoholics Anonymous for other than AA purposes. While there may be little harm in a small friendly loan which your group really means to repay, we really beg you to think hard before you ask the most willing friend to make a large donation. You can, and you soon will, pay your own way. For each of you these overhead expenses will never amount to more than the price of one bottle of good whiskey a month. You will be everlastingly thankful if you pay this small obligation yourselves."

When reflecting on these things, why should not each of us tell himself: "Yes, we AAs were once a burden on everybody. We were 'takers.' Now that we are sober, and by the grace of God have become responsible citizens of the world, why shouldn't we now about-face and become "thankful givers"! Yes, it is high time we did!"

2025
WEST CENTRAL
Regional Forum

19-21 September 2025 | Hilton Omaha | 1001 Cass St
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WWW.AA.ORG

Guardian of AA

Our General Service Conference - From the April

1958 Grapevine

BY: BILL W.

SUBMITTED OF FRED T. DISTRICT 15

EVERY AA wants to make sure of his survival from alcoholism, and his own spiritual well-being afterward. This is just as it should be. He also wants to do what he can for the survival and well-being of his fellow alcoholics. Therefore, he is bound to have a vital interest in the permanence and well-being of AA itself.

In his AA group, every good member feels deeply about this. He knows, once the miracle of sobriety has been received, that Providence expects all of us to work and to grow--to do our part in maintaining our blessings in full force. A perpetual miracle--with no effort or responsibility on our part--simply isn't in the cards. We all understand that the price of both personal and group survival is willingness and sacrifice, vigilance and work.

What is so true for each member and for each group must also be true for AA as a whole. Yet many of us have never given this self-evident proposition the thought it deserves. We are apt to take it for granted that AA, as a whole, will go on forever--no special attention or contribution being required of us. Save an occasional glow of pride in AA's size and reach, it is possible that half of AA's members and groups still have little active concern for the total welfare. That isn't negligence on their part at all. They simply haven't seen the need.

There are two good reasons for this. One is that AA as a whole has never run into any trouble. The other is that, until recently, a small group of AA's old-timers--acting as parents--have tended to the perils and problems of our whole Society without consulting the membership very much about such matters.

Never have we had a problem that cut clear across us. The public admires us; our friends love us; religion and medicine are in our corner. Nobody has seriously exploited us. We have avoided public controversy. The world's political strife hasn't touched us. We haven't had even one full-sized family quarrel. While members and groups have had just about all the woe there is, AA as a whole has never had any. This is the miracle of our twenty-three years of existence.

No wonder so many truly believe that nothing can ever happen to AA itself!

That we have been so long exempt from the pains that all nations and societies must suffer is something for the deepest gratitude. But we certainly cannot presume that this benign phenomenon will last forever. I, for one, do not think that it *should* last. We can never call ourselves grown-up until we have successfully met with all those temptations and problems that invariably harass every large grouping of men and women. This will be good for us--very good, I'm sure.

Someday, we may have to resist all the pressure that a destruction-bent world can put upon us in this craziest and most perilous century that the human race has ever seen. As a fellowship, we shall always need to make whatever sacrifices are necessary to insure AA's unity, service, and survival, *under any conditions whatever*. That is why I'm now writing to you about AA's General Service Conference, the guardian of our future.

Until recently, we have behaved like a still-young family. This family, like all families, has had parents. These parents have been the so-called old-timers and originators of AA. I was fortunate enough to have been one of them. Since the earliest days, we parents have been more concerned with the future welfare of AA than with anything else. At local levels, we old-timers used to look after things; until very recently, Dr. Bob and I, mightily assisted by dedicated alcoholic and nonalcoholic friends, have been doing the same at national and international levels.

As parents of AA, we had to see to it that our growing brood was protected against itself, and against the world outside. Very early, our family had to have principles to live by, and schooling in those principles. The good news of AA had to be spread far and wide, so that we could grow in numbers as well as in quality. Such were our responsibilities.

It was in 1937 that Dr. Bob and I first began to see what we must do. We knew there would have to be an AA text of principles and methods. Other old-timers agreed. By 1939, with lots of help, we had published the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*. This ended all doubt about AA's methods. The 300,000 Big Books today in circulation [by the middle of 1980, about 2,500,000] constitute the platform of recovery upon which our whole Fellowship stands.

We next realized that AA would have to have publicity--lots of it, and of the right kind. We commenced work on this problem. Maybe half of today's members owe their lives and their fortunes to the telling efforts of the press and other means of communication.

From 1940 to 1950, we were beset by group problems of every sort, frightening beyond description. Out of these experiences, the Twelve Traditions of AA were forged--Traditions that now protect us against ourselves and the world outside. This effort, requiring immense office correspondence and experience, finally resulted in a whole new literature dealing with AA's unity and services. Under these influences, we grew solid.

The news of AA began to spread around the world, finally reaching into seventy lands [in 1980, 106]. This brought a host of new problems and the need to publish AA literature in many tongues. Hospitals and prisons and Loners and men on ships also had to be reached and helped. AA's lifelines had to extend everywhere. AA needed a monthly magazine. Today, the AA Grapevine reaches 40,000 subscribers [128,000 now], plus countless thousands of others each month.

These have been the duties and privileges of our parenthood worldwide. We did our best to protect AA so that it could grow undisturbed. Not troubling the growing family about these critical matters, we acted on the principle that "Father knows best." In the early days, it was just as simple as that. It was then far too soon to throw the full weight of responsibility onto our whole Fellowship.

From the beginning, Dr. Bob and I found that we needed special help ourselves. Therefore, we called upon certain dedicated nonalcoholics to give us a lift. With these men, we formed a trusteeship for Alcoholics Anonymous. It was created way back in 1938, and we called it the Alcoholic Foundation (since renamed the General Service Board of AA). In 1940, our trustees acquired the AA book and assumed full responsibility for AA's general funds, its world service office [now the General Service Office], and its public relations.

To this body of trustees--alcoholic and nonalcoholic--must go most of the credit for making our world Headquarters what it now is. In our new history book, *AA Comes of Age*, you can read what they did for us in our pioneering time as the moving drama of AA unfolded.

During the year 1948, we workers at AA's Headquarters got a terrific jolt. Dr. Bob was stricken with a consuming and slowly fatal malady. This created a severe crisis in our affairs, because it made us face up to the fact that the old-time parents of AA weren't going to last forever.

We were filled with foreboding as we realized how insecure were the existing links between our head quarters and the vast sprawling Fellowship that it served. There was of course, Our small board of trustees. But not one AA in a thousand could name half of them. At the head quarters office, there were Bobbie, Ann, and Charlotte. There were Dr. Bob and myself. We few were just about the *only links* to worldwide AA!

Meanwhile, thousands of our members went serenely about their business. They knew little or nothing about AA's overall problems. They vaguely supposed that God, with maybe a slight assist from Dr. Bob and me, would go right on handling them. Thus, they were completely ignorant of the actual state of our affairs, and of the awful potential there was for an ultimate collapse.

It was a racking dilemma. Somehow, AA as such--AA as a *whole*--would have to take over the full responsibility. Without doubt, the groups would have to elect numerous delegates and send them to New York each year, where they could sit with and guide the trustees. Only by so doing could AA assume effective direction of its own policy and business. Only through these elected delegates could the increasing isolation of the trustees from the movement itself be halted. Only such a body could take binding decisions in any future crisis.

When our scheme for a joint conference of trustees and delegates was first proposed, a howl went up country-wide. At first, it looked as though the AA family didn't want any part of this new and unexpected responsibility. To them, "AA delegates" spelled nothing but politics, controversy, and confusion. "Let's keep it simple," they cried.

But after a couple of years of agitation and education, our Fellowship clearly realized that the ultra simplicity of the early days could be no more. Direct family responsibility there would have to be, or else AA would fold up at its very center. The erstwhile elders, fathers, and founders would have to be taken off the hook and replaced by delegates. There was no other way. The family would have to "come of age" or suffer dire penalties for failure to do so.

So we called in some seventy-five delegates from the U.S. and Canada. Together with the trustees and the Headquarters and Grapevine staff, those delegates formed themselves into the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous. By then, it was 1951.

At first, this was an experiment, pure and simple. If it worked, it would mean that AA had truly "come of age," and could really manage its own affairs. Through its representative Conference, it could become the guardian of its own future and the protector of its own lifelines of service.

Well, our Conference did work. Its performance, God be thanked, exceeded all our expectations. At the end of its five-year experimental period, we knew that it could become a permanent part of our Fellowship.

In July of 1955, at AA's twentieth anniversary, I stood before the great St. Louis Convention. Amid a dwindling band of old-timers, and on their behalf, I delivered the destiny of AA into the hands of its chosen representatives, the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous. I cannot remember any happier day in my life. A gaping chasm had been bridged. AA was secure at last.

Some people still ask these questions: Will the AA family send to the Conference its finest delegates? Will we continue to choose able and wise trustees? Will AAs back their Conference members, their trustees, and their world Headquarters with enough funds, enough interest, and enough understanding?

For me, these are questions no longer. The history of AA shows that whenever a great need arises, that need is always met. In this respect, I'm quite sure that our history will go on repeating itself. Indeed, I can have no doubt whatever.

I think, too, that my own influence at the Headquarters should continue to lessen. Through its Conference, complete authority and responsibility are now fully vested in AA. The parent who overstays his time can only hamper the growth of his offspring. This, I must not do. My proper place will soon be along the sidelines, cheering you newer ones as you carry on. Our family is now fully of age, and it should firmly remind me of that fact if I am ever again tempted to take charge.

For these all-compelling reasons, my friends, the future belongs to you. Embrace these new responsibilities eagerly; fear naught; and the Grace of God will surely be yours.

UPCOMING EVENTS

*See area35.org for printable flyers

Save
the
Date!

AA.org/International-Convention

2025 A.A. International Convention

July 3-6, 2025




Scan here!



Language of the Heart
Lenguaje del corazón
Le langage du cœur

*** VOLUNTEER INVITATION ***

Join The A.A. Statewide Corrections Committee

RedemptionReconciliationPeaceSupport


FREEDOM



IT'S AN INSIDE JOB

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

CARERESTORATION



COMPASSIONSERENITY


Help Unlock the A.A. Message of HopeWe Will Know a New Freedom

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

JOIN TEAMS MEETING

Press CNTRL + LEFT CLICK to follow link:

Link: [Statewide Corrections Committee \(SWCC\) Monthly Meeting | Microsoft Teams | Meetup-Join](#)



"A SPECIAL KIND OF A.A. SERVICE"

For more information, Please contact Carter L. - SWCC Chair at following address/number:
correctionsmn@gmail.com
952.239.1333

Registration:

AA, Al-Anon x \$20 =

Alateen x \$8 =

All Adult Accommodations: (please check and describe)

RV/Camper ☐ Need Electricity

Cabin (name)

Lodge (Room #)

Tent/Tree House

Friday x =

Saturday x =

Children Under 12 (under 5 free):

Friday x \$8 =

Saturday x \$8 =

Adult Meals:

Friday p.m. x \$10.00 =

Saturday a.m. x \$10.00 =

Saturday Lunch x \$9.00 =

Saturday p.m. x \$15.00 =

Sunday a.m. x \$10.00 =

Sunday Lunch x \$9.00 =

All Meal Package x \$55.00 =

Children Under 12 Meals (under 3 free):

Friday p.m. x \$9.00 =

Saturday a.m. x \$9.00 =

Saturday Lunch x \$7.00 =

Saturday p.m. x \$9.00 =

Sunday a.m. x \$9.00 =

Sunday Lunch x \$7.00 =

TOTAL ENCLOSED

"Experience
the Serenity"

FALL . . . brings a coat of many colors to our forest. Enjoy the area foliage while hiking, golfing, fishing or boating are nearby. Headwaters Golf Course is just across the road! Access to the Heartland Trail is down the road!

CAMPING & RV's
PREREGISTRATION
REQUIRED

ON-SITE PLAYGROUND
Volleyball, Basketball, GaGa Ball
Soccer, Tetherball, Disc Golf
Children's Play Area
(Children must be supervised)

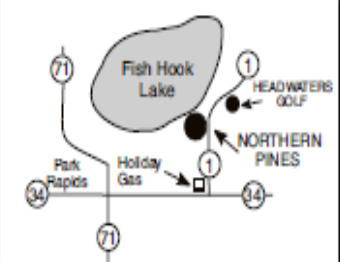
PET POLICY
Pets allowed in RV/Campers
and campground only.
ALL BUILDINGS ARE PET FREE.
Pets must be leashed
or contained at all times.
Please register all pets along with current
vaccination records and sign a waiver of
responsibility upon arrival.

34th ANNUAL
HEARTLAND ROUND-UP
SEPTEMBER 5, 6, 7 - 2025
20033 COUNTY 1
PARK RAPIDS, MN 56470

NORTHERN PINES
CAMP & RETREAT
CENTER

20033 County 1 • Park Rapids, MN

Situated on a 40 acre site on the east shore of Fish Hook Lake, in the woods and pines near Park Rapids in the area known as the Heartland of northern Minnesota, Northern Pines is an ideal setting for walking, running, hiking and biking. The headwaters of the Mississippi in Itasca Park is about 20 miles.


Directions from Park Rapids: Go East of Park Rapids on Highway #34 to Jct. #1, by Holiday Gas Station, go 2 miles North on #1 to camp.

Google Maps may be inaccurate,
please use these directions.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

Save the Date

Area 35 & Area 36 Statewide
2025

CORRECTIONS SERVICE WORKSHOP

Statewide Corrections Committee



October 25, 2025

From 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

In-person at Jack and Jim's Event Center
11025 Duelm Road NE, Foley, MN 56329

or

Online Hybrid via TEAMS

Featuring Speakers and Topic Presentations

Awesome On-Site Lunch Sandwich Buffet Available for purchase!

For more information, contact:

Carter L. (SWCC Chair) at correctionsmn@gmail.com or

Mark R. at corrections@area35.org or David A. at corrections@area36.org or

Tracy Jo at altcorrections@area36.org

ATTENTION – PLEASE READ

*** 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.
5. 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>



Corrections
Correspondence
— a special kind
of A.A. Service

CORRESPONDENCE FORM — for Outside A.A. Members Only **CCS-3**

PLEASE PRINT - Return to address below

I am a ☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE How many inmates are you able to write to?: _____

I can correspond in ☐ English ☐ French ☐ Spanish ☐ Other language _____

Name: _____ Phone (office use only): _____
(First and Last)

Address: _____ Email (office use only): _____
(P.O. Box or Street Address, City, State or Province, Postal or Zip Code)

Corrections Desk, General Service Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163
Direct: (212) 870-3085 Email: corrections@aa.org Fax: (212) 870-3003 Website: www.aa.org

The Bright Spot
of our Lives

The 79th Annual
Duluth Roundup
September 12-14, 2025
Holiday Inn—
Downtown
200 W 1st St.
Duluth, MN 55802

for more information, and to stay
up to date with goings on visit
duluthroundup.org

for more information or to
register online, visit:
duluthroundup.org
questions?
contact Shelley at 218.780.0986

	Friday
Registration Opens	2:00
AA Speaker, Natalie H. — Eau Claire, WI	7:00
Ice Cream Social to follow	
	Saturday
Breakfast	8:00
Early Bird AA Meeting	8:30
Speaker Meeting, Kevin K. — Superior, WI	10:00
Meetings, Workshops, & Panels	12:00- -4:00
Dinner	5:00
AL Anon Speaker, Jennie P. — Thunder Bay, ON	6:30
AA Speaker, Paul M. — Rockaway Beach, NY	8:00
Raffle Drawing & Silent Auction to follow	
	Sunday
Early Bird AA Meeting	8:30
AA Speaker, Bobbie K. — Burnsville, MN	10:00

Mail registration form with U.S. funds to
PO Box 16771
Duluth, MN 55816-0771

Registration

Total Amount
Enclosed
\$ _____

Breakfast — \$25
amount: _____
(limited tickets available)

Dinner — \$50
amount: _____
(limited tickets available)

Roundup Tickets — \$30
amount: _____

Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Email Address
Phone

Presale tickets can be purchased online, by mail, or
from a Committee Member before August 31st.
On site registration begins Friday, September 12th at
2:00 PM at the Holiday Inn — Downtown.

★ ° ° ★ **FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION** ★ ° ° ★

90 YEARS OF ALOCHOLICS ANONYMOUS
Hosted by: District 16 Committee, Alcoholics Anonymous



SATURDAY JUNE 14th, 2025
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - FELLOWSHIP HALL
1701 SE 5th AVENUE, GRAND RAPIDS

- 2:30 PM – BILLS VISION/HISTORY OF SPONSORSHIP/Q&A**
Presented by: Scott J, Aurora MN
- 5:30 PM – POTLUCK (please bring a dish to share)**
- 6:30 PM – AL ANON SPEAKER – Bill S, Grand Rapids MN**
- 7:45 PM – AA SPEAKER – Cody L, Grand Rapids MN**

Please join us in celebrating our Founders and commemorating the history
which has given us this life

A Weekend With Bill And Lois (19th Annual)
JULY 11-13, 2025
Camp Hiawatha, 36944 Camp Hiawatha Rd, Deer River, MN 56636

Friday Night Festivities	Saturday Festivities
4:30 p.m. Registration begins (No early arrival, please)	8:30 a.m. AA Meeting
No meal provided. Please bring a dish to share.	8:30 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting
6:30 p.m. Al-Anon Kayleen M. Cohasset, MN	9:45 a.m. Old-Timer's Meeting (History-AA/Al-Anon)
7:30 p.m. AA Abbey F. - Grand Rapids, MN	10:45 a.m. Brunch
Campfire Call-Up Meeting after the speakers	11:30 a.m. Triangle Meeting – "What's it all about?"
	Three Legacies – Unity, Service & Recovery
	12:30 p.m. Free time
	5:30 p.m. Dinner
	6:30 p.m. Sobriety Countdown
	6:45 p.m. Al-Anon Speaker – Kelly K, Spearfish, SD
	8:00 p.m. AA Speaker – Wayne K, Spearfish, SD
	Campfire Call-Up Meeting after the speakers

Afternoon Games/rec activities on your own:
bean bag toss, volleyball, tether ball, sauna, paddle boarding, kayaking, canoeing, fishing, swimming

Questions, please contact: Eva R. – (612)743-8523, or Eric G. – (218)404-2192
billandloisw@gmail.com

FRIENDLY REMINDER-NO PETS AND **BRING A LAWN CHAIR**
FEES:
• Registration-\$10/person (includes hearing speakers/no meals)
LODGING:
• Limited camping available-first come, first served, NO HOOK UPS-\$18/night/tent/camper
• Dorm Room costs (bring your own bedding and towels, showers are available)- \$44/night/person
MEALS:
• Friday, July 11 th – No Meal provided, please bring a dish to share
• Saturday, July 11 th – With added meetings this year, we ask if you are able to bring light breakfast food such as muffins, fruit, doughnuts to share.
• Saturday, July 12 th – Brunch & Dinner – <u>MEALS MUST BE ORDERED AND PAID IN ADVANCE.</u>

Please return the bottom portion by June 28, 2025

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TUESDAY NIGHT SOLUTIONS EVENT COMMITTEE
MAIL TO: 505 SE 21st St. Apt 202, Grand Rapids MN 55744

Gilbert Tuesday Night
Open A.A. Meeting
Tuesday June 10th 2025

St. Joseph's Catholic Church
Summit & Louisiana

Come help us Celebrate
A.A.s 90th Birthday

7pm Speaker

Scott J. Aurora Mn.

Scott shares a little of A.A. History and
his own personal experience

Cake and ice cream to follow

WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL FORUM
September 19-21, 2025
Hilton Omaha, Omaha, NE

You are invited to the West Central Regional Forum!

- PURPOSE OF REGIONAL FORUMS
- Regional Forums are hosted by the General Service Board and "open" to all A.A. members or anyone interested in A.A.
 - Regional Forums are designed to enhance trust and communication between A.A. members and the General Service Board, Staff, and Directors from the General Service Office and AA Grapevine.

- PROGRAM
- Your West Central Regional Trustee will moderate the event. You will hear from the General Manager of your General Service Office and Staff Members, General Service Board Trustees, AA Grapevine/La Vña Inc. Publisher and Staff, A.A. World Services, Inc. Director, your regional delegates, and past trustees.
 - There will be presentations, workshops, panels, and more. There will also be sharing sessions to allow for comments and questions. A sample program is posted on aa.org/regional-and-local-forums.
 - The event will take place from Friday from 6:30 p.m. through Sunday 12 p.m.

- REGISTRATION
- Registration is FREE and will open online at www.aa.org on Friday, July 18, 2025.
 - All registration information is confidential and will not be used for anything except communicating about the event and sending the digital Regional Forum Final Report.
 - Pre-registration is encouraged, and on-site registration will be available.

- HOTEL INFORMATION
- Hilton Omaha
1001 Cass St.
Omaha, NE 68102
- For hotel reservations: Hilton Omaha Reservations
 - or Call 1-800-315-1066.
Please reference "2025 West Central Region Alcoholics Anonymous Forum (WCRAAF)" and use the code "846" to receive the group rate.
 - Reservations must be made by August 28, 2025.
 - Rate: Single/Double Occupancy, \$137 per night US

We look forward to seeing you in Omaha!

UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

NEW WAYS TO PAY AND WATCH THE
VIRTUAL PROGRAM SESSION TRACK

The General Service Board approved a tiered pricing registration option that is now being added for Groups and Information Gathering Watch parties. Intergroups/Central offices, districts, areas, and local AA groups have requested this option.

A Group and Information Gathering Watch party coordinator must register and pay a 2025 International Convention Virtual Program Session Track registration fee based on a tiered number of watch party attendees as follows:

- 1. 6-20 attendees = \$200.00 (USD)
- 2. 21-30 attendees = \$300.00 (USD)
- 3. 31-40 attendees = \$400.00 (USD)
- 4. 41-50 attendees = \$500.00 (USD)



You can register for this "Watch party" viewing option at [this link](#) or by scanning the QR code.



Please be advised that this document was neither translated nor reviewed by the Language Services Department of the General Service Office; therefore, it may contain variations in content, terminology, and consistency.

2025 IC Toolkit - Make Your Plans to Attend

7/3/25 Starts 7:30 PM

Boîte à outils 2025 IC

7/6/25 Ends 11 AM

2025 Caja de herramientas IC

[Housing Resource Flyer](#)

[Message sur les hébergements](#)

[Mensajes de recursos de hotel](#)



[Register Here!](#)

[Inscrivez-vous ici](#)

[Registrate aqui](#)



[What to expect at IC 2025](#)

[A quoi chaque participant](#)

[peut-il s'attendre?](#)

[¿Qué puede hacer cada asistente?](#)



[Volunteer](#)

[Informations sur le bénévolat](#)

[Información para voluntarios](#)



[Attraction Video!](#)

[Vidéo!](#)

[Vídeo!](#)



[Virtual Sessions Program](#)

[Watch Party Registration](#)

[Visionnage en groupe d'un](#)

[programme Inscription](#)

[Inscripción para Visionado en](#)

[grupo de un programa](#)



[International Convention | Alcoholics Anonymous](#)
[Congrès international | Alcoholics Anonymous](#)
[Convención Internacional | Alcoholics Anonymous](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35

*See area35.org for printable flyers

2025 Service Events

June 1: Area Committee Meeting
Aitkin, MN

July 12: Area 35/36 Joint Workshop
11-1pm by Teams

August 3: Area Committee Meeting
Aitkin, MN

October 4-5: Fall Assembly
Ely, MN

Dec 7: Area Committee Meeting
Aitkin, MN

2026 Service Events

Jan 17-18th Service Workshop
Hibbing, MN

PLEASE POST

“But we
do have
expenses...”

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

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



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

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

E-198-4/96 1M

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

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



Area 35
General Service Conference
Agenda Items Process

Greetings Area 35,

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

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

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

Thank you for your help.

Agenda
Deadline Dates

September 15th

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

February 15th

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

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

1st Sunday in February

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

1st Weekend in March

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

1st Weekend in April

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

3rd Week in April

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

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
CONTACT

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

NORTHERN LIGHT PRIMARY PURPOSE:

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

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

EDITORIAL POSITION & N.L. COMMITTEE:

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

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

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

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

NORTHERN LIGHT SUBMISSIONS:

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

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

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

Northern Light Editor, Jennifer T.

Directions for Inserting a Flier into the Northern Light

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

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

3. Upon approval mail to :

Cold Spring Record
PO Box 456
403 West Wind Court
Cold Spring, MN 56320
With an Attn: Northern Light on the mailing address
Include a note stating they are to be inserted into the next Northern Light

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

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

NMAA
1102 E Camp St
Ely, MN 55731

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE MOST CURRENT ADDRESS!!!
- | Number of Copies | Printing Costs | | Insertion Fee | Total Cost |
|------------------|----------------|---------|---------------|------------|
| | 1 Sided | 2 Sided | | |
| 750 | \$ 68 | \$ 90 | \$ 30 | \$ 98/120 |
| 1000 | \$ 90 | \$ 120 | \$ 30 | \$ 120/150 |
- RELATED FLIER INSERTION INFORMATION
- ◆ Only Area 35 A.A. Members may submit a flier. Fliers must be for A.A. sponsored events only.
 - ◆ Fliers needed—750 mailed only or 1000 for mailed and handouts.
- Northern Light Deadlines for 2025 are as Follows:
- ◆ June 29, 2025: Flier will be included in the July/August Issue
 - ◆ August 31, 2025: Flier will be included in the September/October Issue
 - ◆ October 31, 2025: Flier will be included in the November/December Issue

Area 35 Event Flyer Guidelines

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

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

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

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

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

Acronyms

(Spaghetti Soup)

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

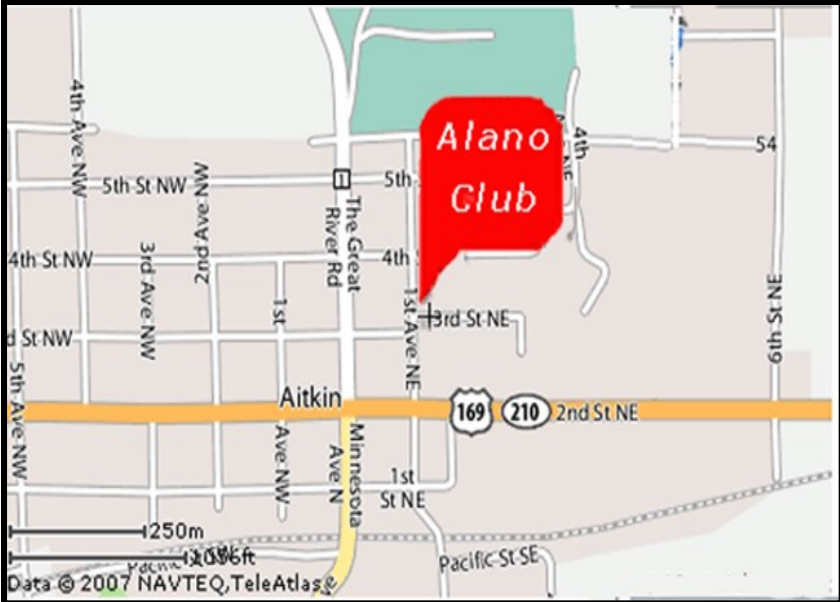
AREA 35 EVENTS
INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

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

AREA 35
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Where is the Aitkin Alano Club?

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



Volume XLIII Issue 3 May/June, 2025		NORTHERN LIGHT Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly		Created 1982 Page 23	
OUR PAST DELEGATES					
<u>Panel 72</u> 2022-2023 Steven L	<u>Panel 40</u> 1990-1991 Bob J	<u>Panel 14</u> 1964-1965 Donald F (deceased)			
<u>Panel 70</u> 2020-2021 Jim S	<u>Panel 38</u> 1988-1989 Scott J	<u>Panel 12</u> 1962-1963 Donna T (deceased)			
<u>Panel 68</u> 2018-2019 Christine G	<u>Panel 36</u> 1986-1987 Louie H	<u>Panel 10</u> 1960-1961 Bob B (deceased)			
<u>Panel 66</u> 2016-2017 Kelly D	<u>Panel 34</u> 1984-1985 Bob P (deceased)	<u>Panel 8</u> 1958-1959 Pearl N (deceased)			
<u>Panel 64</u> 2014-2015 Michael J	<u>Panel 32</u> 1982-1983 Tom L (deceased)	<u>Panel 6</u> 1956-1957 Waldo H (deceased)			
<u>Panel 62</u> 2012-2013 Jim K	<u>Panel 30</u> 1980-1981 Don M (deceased)	<u>Panel 4</u> 1954-1955 Wendell H (deceased)			
<u>Panel 60</u> 2010-2011 Jon C	<u>Panel 28</u> 1978-1979 Garfield S (deceased)	<u>Panel 2</u> 1952-1953 Arthur R (deceased)			
<u>Panel 58</u> 2008-2009 JoAnne N	<u>Panel 26</u> 1976-1977 Vern R (deceased)				
<u>Panel 56</u> 2006-2007 Jerry S	<u>Panel 24</u> 1974-1975 Gordon B. Hagen (deceased)				
<u>Panel 54</u> 2004-2005 Charlie C	<u>Panel 22</u> 1972-1973 Frank J (deceased)				
<u>Panel 52</u> 2002-2003 Tim C	<u>Panel 20</u> 1970-1971 Clarence B (deceased)				
<u>Panel 50</u> 2000-2001 Tom A	<u>Panel 18</u> 1968-1969 Dave H (deceased)				
<u>Panel 48</u> 1998-1999 Susie A	<u>Panel 16</u> 1966-1967 Arno A (deceased)				
<u>Panel 46</u> 1996-1997 Bill P (deceased)					
<u>Panel 44</u> 1994-1995 Bruce Bates 4505 Robinson Street					
<u>Panel 42</u> 1992-1993 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	
<p>Though the high point is the Conference meeting, the delegate’s job goes on year-round and involves all aspects of the Conference structure. The delegate should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Attend the Conference meeting in April, fully prepared. Immediately upon election, every delegate is put on the G.S.O. mailing list to receive Conference materials.Communicate the actions of the Conference to area committee members and encourage them to pass on this information, and the delegate’s enthusiasm, to groups and to intergroups/central offices. If an area is too large for the delegate to cover in person, he or she will ask area officers and committee members to share the load.Be prepared to attend all area, state/provincial, and regional service meetings and assemblies. From these meetings, delegates come to better understand their own areas and can make suggestions for the Conference agenda. Here, too, they come in contact with A.A. members who might not be reached otherwise.Help area committees obtain financial support for the area and G.S.O.Provide leadership in solving local problems involving the A.A. Traditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Remind G.S.R.s to inform groups and individuals about the A.A. Grapevine and Conference-approved literature.Cooperate with G.S.O. in obtaining information—for example, making sure that up-to-date information reaches G.S.O. in time to meet the deadline for each Issue of the A.A. directory and helping carry out the triennial membership surveys.Visit groups and districts in the area whenever possible.Work closely with committee members and officers, sharing experience throughout the year. After G.S.R.s and committee members have reported on the Conference, learn from these A.A.s how groups and members have reacted.Assume added responsibility if the area chair and alternate chair are unable to serve. Or, if an area committee is not functioning effectively, the delegate may take an active role in remedying the situation.Keep the alternate delegate fully informed and active, so that the alternate can replace the delegate in an emergency.Late in the second term, work with newly elected delegates to pass along a basic knowledge of Conference proceedings and problems.

AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETING

Agenda

Aitkin, MN

June 1, 2025

<p>_____ 9:00 A.M. Action Chair Committee Meetings (9:30 a.m. Financial Oversight Committee)</p> <p>_____ 10:30 A.M. Area Committee Meeting</p> <p>_____ Call to Order Open with the Serenity Prayer</p> <p>_____ Recognize Past Delegates</p> <p>_____ Add to Agenda</p> <p>_____ Approve Minutes from February 2 ACM</p> <p>OFFICER REPORTS</p> <p>_____ Delegate – Diane R</p> <p>_____ Alternate Delegate – Pat M</p> <p>_____ Chair – Vicki R</p> <p>_____ Secretary – Denise R</p> <p>_____ Treasurer – Heidi B</p> <p>COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS</p> <p>_____ Financial Oversight Committee- Scott A</p> <p>_____ District 7 – Jessical S</p> <p>_____ WEBMASTER – Terry P</p> <p>_____ NORTHERN LIGHT – Jennifer T</p> <p>_____ GROUP RECORDS – Phyllis K</p> <p>_____ District 2 – Kim B</p> <p>_____ District 11 – Kathy M</p> <p>_____ LITERATURE – Mike U</p> <p>_____ District 8 – John J</p> <p>_____ District 15 – Fred T</p> <p>_____ PUBLIC INFORMATION – Randy A</p> <p>_____ District 1 - Loren G</p> <p>_____ District 21 –</p> <p>_____ TREATMENT – Kyle H</p> <p>_____ District 5 – Chad O</p> <p>_____ District 14 -</p> <p>_____ CPC – Mary S</p> <p>_____ District 6 – Julie N</p> <p>_____ District 9 – Tom T</p> <p>_____ ARCHIVES – Cathy R</p> <p>_____ ARCHMIST – Marc N</p> <p>_____ District 4 – Jim T</p> <p>_____ District 18 – Steve T</p> <p>_____ GRAPEVINE – Terry A</p> <p>_____ District 12 – Richard G</p> <p>_____ District 16 – Dave C</p> <p>_____ CORRECTIONS – Mark R</p>	<p>_____ District 3 – Melvin S</p> <p>_____ District 13 – Peggy M</p> <p>_____ 12:00 P.M. Lunch</p> <p>_____ 12:45 P.M. Reconvene</p> <p>OLD BUSINESS</p> <p>_____ Ad-hoc committee updates:(if the committee has one)</p> <p>_____ Joint Area 35/36 Workshop, July 12 -11-1pm</p> <p>_____ Archivist needs a volunteer to provide support</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>NEW BUSINESS:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____ Calendar of Events</p> <p>_____ Adjourn - responsibility statement</p>
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**Please remember to include your group service number on all contributions.
This will ensure that your contributions get credited to your group.**

**Mail Area 35 Group contributions to: NMAA
1102 E Camp St
Ely, MN 55731**