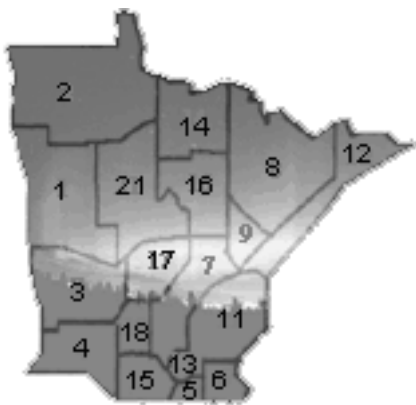


NONPROFIT
ORG
U. S. Postage
Paid
St. Cloud, MN
56301



Deadline for the next
Northern Light is
September 7th, 2010

This is YOUR Newsletter.

Please send your questions or comments for publication to
Daniel R. at NorthernLight@area35.org

Please bring extra copies to share with your group!

Don't forget to visit and bookmark your Area 35 web site! - <http://area35.org>
Event Calendar - Meeting Directory - NL Online - Download Pamphlets - District Pages

AREA 35 COMMITTEE 2010

AREA OFFICERS

DELEGATE
JON C.
delegate@area35.org

ALTERNATE DELEGATE
JIM K.
alt_delegate@area35.org

AREA CHAIR
MICHAEL “JAKE” J.
areachair@area35.org

TREASURER
SARAH K.
treasurer@area35.org

SECRETARY
HEIDI R.
secretary@area35.org

AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PUBLIC INFORMATION
ROGER R.
pi@area35.org

ARCHIVES
ART HUR J. A.
archives@area35.org

ARCHIVIST
BRAD I.
archivist@area35.org

CORRECTIONS
KELLY D.
corrections@area35.org

LITERATURE
BOB K.
liturature@area35.org

GRAPEVINE
DOLORES D. K.
grapevine@area35.org

COOPERATION WITH THE
PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (C.P.C.)
DOUG N.
cpc@area35.org

TREATMENT
ROBERT (BUTCH) R.
treatment@area35.org

WEBMASTER
IONE B.
webmaster@area35.org

GROUP RECORDS
LAURIE R.
grouprecords@area35.org

NORTHERN LIGHT
DANIEL R.
northernlight@area35.org

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(D.C.M.s)

DISTRICT 1
RICHARD "RICK" W.
dcm1@area35.org

DISTRICT 2
RODNEY P.
dcm2@area35.org

DISTRICT 3
JEFF C.
dcm3@area35.org

DISTRICT 4
DEE DEE B.
dcm4@area35.org

DISTRICT 5
RITA D.
dcm5@area35.org

DISTRICT 6
KATHIE G.
dcm6@area35.org

DISTRICT 7
MARK N.
dcm7@area35.org

DISTRICT 8
RANDY A.
dcm8@area35.org

DISTRICT 9
CHUCK R.
dcm9@area35.org

DISTRICT 11
GARY H.
dcm11@area35.org

DISTRICT 12
JANA M.
dcm12@area35.org

DISTRICT 13
GAYLE S.
dcm13@area35.org

DISTRICT 15
SANDY H.
dcm15@area35.org

DISTRICT 16
MARY S.
dcm16@area35.org

DISTRICT 18
MIKE D.
dcm18@area35.org >>

DISTRICT 21
CARL B.
dcm21@area35.org

DISTRICTS 10, 14, 17, 19 AND 20
UNKNOWN

MOVING?
ADDRESS NOT
CORRECT?

Please help us keep our mailing list for the *Northern Light* accurate and up-to-date. It costs the Area \$.50 for each piece of returned mail.

Please contact our Group Records Secretary with your new or changed address:

GroupRecords@area35.org

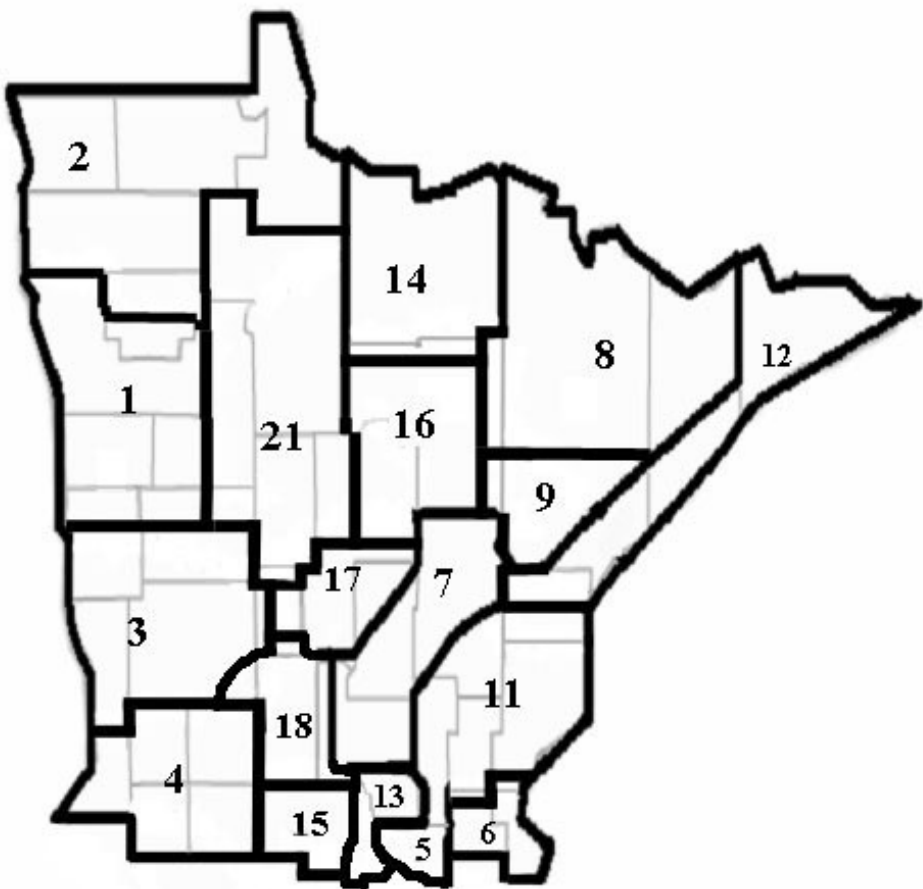
Thank you!

Our Past Delegates

Panel 58 JoAnne M. N.	2008-2009	Panel 26 Vern R. (deceased)	1976-1977
Panel 56 Jerry S.	2006-2007	Panel 24 Gordon B. H.	1974-1975
Panel 54 Charlie C.	2004-2005	Panel 22 Frank P. J. (deceased)	1972-1973
Panel 52 Tim C.	2002-2003	Panel 20 Clarence B. (deceased)	1970-1971
Panel 50 Tom A.	2000-2001	Panel 18 Dave H.	1968-1969
Panel 48 Susie A.	1998-1999	Panel 16 Arno A. (deceased)	1966-1967
Panel 46 Bill P.	1996-1997	Panel 14 Donald F. (deceased)	1964-1965
Panel 44 Bruce B.	1994-1995	Panel 12 Donna T. (deceased)	1962-1963
Panel 42 Greg G. (deceased)	1992-1993	Panel 10 Bob B. (deceased)	1960-1961
Panel 40 Bob J.	1990-1991	Panel 8 Pearl N. (deceased)	1958-1959
Panel 38 Scott J.	1988-1989	Panel 6 Waldo H. (deceased)	1956-1957
Panel 36 Louie H.	1986-1987	Panel 4 Wendell H. (deceased)	1954-1955
Panel 34 Bob P.	1984-1985	Panel 2 Arthur R. (deceased)	1952-1953
Panel 32 Tom L.	1982-1983		
Panel 30 Don M. (deceased)	1981-1982		
Panel 28 Garfield (Duffy) S. (deceased)	1978-1979		

The Delegate’s Duties

- Though the high point is the Conference meeting, the delegate’s job goes on year-round and involves all aspects of the Conference structure. The delegate should:
- Attend the Conference meeting in April, fully prepared. Immediately upon election, every delegate is put on the G.S.O. mailing list to receive Conference materials.
 - Communicate the actions of the Conference to area committee members and encourage them to pass on this information, and the delegate’s enthusiasm, to groups and to intergroups/central offices. If an area is too large for the delegate to cover in person, he or she will ask area officers and committee members to share the load.
 - Be prepared to attend all area, state/provincial, and regional service meetings and assemblies. From these meetings, delegates come to better understand their own areas and can make suggestions for the Conference agenda. Here, too, they come in contact with A.A. members who might not be reached otherwise.
 - Help area committees obtain financial support for the area and G.S.O.
 - Provide leadership in solving local problems involving the A.A. Traditions.
 - Remind G.S.R.s to inform groups and individuals about the A.A. Grapevine and Conference-approved literature.
 - Cooperate with G.S.O. in obtaining information—for example, making sure that up-to-date information reaches G.S.O. in time to meet the deadline for each Issue 6f 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.
- (from The A.A. Service Manual, pages S44-S45)



Area 35

Northern Minnesota

Zone I

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

Zone II

- District 3** - Audubon, Barnesville, Battle Lake, Cormorant, Deer Creek, Detroit Lakes, Dilworth, Elizabeth, Erhard, Fergus Falls, Frazee, Hawley, Henning, Lake Park, Moorhead, Osage, Ottertail, Pelican Rapids, Perham, Underwood, Wadena
- District 4** - Alexandria, Browns Valley, Carlos, Elbow Lake, Evansville, Glenwood, Herman, Kensington, Morris, Osakis
- District 15** - Albany, Avon, Cold Spring, Holdingford, Lake Henry, Melrose, Paynesville, Richmond, Sartell, St. Joseph, St. Stephen, Sauk Centre, Watkins

Zone III

- District 5** - Becker, Big Lake, Elk River, Milaca, Otsego, Princeton, Zimmerman
- District 6** - Braham, Bethel, Cambridge, Forest Lake, Harris, Isanti, Lindstrom, North Branch, Rock Creek, Stacy, St. Francis
- District 7** - Aitkin, Baxter, Brainerd, Fort Ripley, Garrison, Ironton, Little Falls*, McGregor*, Palisade, Pierz, Pillager*
- District 11** - Finlayson*, Grasston, Henriette, Hinckley*, Isle, Lake Lena, Malmo, Moose Lake*, Mora, Ogilvie, Pine City, Quamba, Sandstone, Wahkon, Willow River
- District 13** - Kimball, Rice, St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids, Waite Park
- District 17** - Backus, Cross Lake, Nisswa, Pequot Lakes, Pillager*, Pine River
- District 18** - Browerville, Cushing, Eagle Bend, Little Falls*, Long Prairie, Motley, Parkers Prairie, Staples, Verndale

Zone IV

- District 8** - Alango, Aurora, Babbitt, Biwabik, Cook, Cotton, Ely, Eveleth, Gilbert, Hoyt Lakes, Mountain Iron, Orr, Palo, Pike, Tower, Virginia, Zim*
- District 9** - Chisholm, Floodwood, Goodland, Hibbing*, Keewatin, Kelly Lake, Lawrence Lake*, Nashwauk*
- District 12** - Beaver Bay, Brimson, Brookston, Cloquet, Duluth, Esko, Finland, Fredenberg, Grand Marais, Grand Portage, Hermantown, Knife River, Lawrence Lake*, Lutsen, Mah-towa, Pike Lake, Proctor, Sawyer, Silver Bay, Foxborro (Wisconsin), Side Lake, Superior (Wisconsin), Toivola, Two Harbors
- District 14** - Effie, International Falls, Nett Lake

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

District Meeting Location Information

- District 1**
Sunday February 7th, 2:00 pm
Fertile Community Center
101 S. Mill St., Fertile, MN 56540
Email DCM. Richard "Rick" W.
dcm1@area35.org for next meeting.
- District 2**
2nd Sunday of Odd Months, 2:00 p.m.
First Lutheran Church
210 Park Ave. N.
Middle River, MN 56737
- District 3**
3rd Sunday of Month, 10:00 a.m.
Perham Alano Club
Hwy 34
Perham, MN 56573
- District 4**
2nd Saturday of Month, 5:30 p.m.
Call DCM Jim 320 585-5383
for location (it rotates)
Potluck at 6:30 p.m.
Round Robin at 7:00 p.m.
- District 5**
3rd Monday of Month, 7 p.m.
St. John Lutheran Church
13045 Fremont Ave
Zimmerman, MN 55398

- District 6**
3rd Thursday of Month, 7:30 p.m.
Spring Lake Lutheran Church
8440 Erickson Rd. N.E.
North Branch, MN 55056
- District 7**
3rd Thursday of Month, 7:00 p.m.
First Lutheran Church
424 8th St. S.
Brainerd, MN 56401
- District 8**
Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m.
General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Call Randy for location “rotates”
218-225-8833
Palo, MN
- District 9**
Last Sunday of Month, 6:00 p.m.
Hibbing Alano Club
3725 1st Avenue
Hibbing, MN 55746
- District 11**
1st Tuesday of Month, 7:00 p.m.
Peace Lutheran
2177 Hwy 18
Finlayson, MN 55735
- District 12**
Rotating 3rd Thursday 6:30 p.m.
Email DCM Jana at dcm12@area35.org for loca-
tion!

- District 13**
1st Monday of Month, 7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
Salem Lutheran Church
90 Riverside Drive S.E.
Saint Cloud, MN 56304
- District 15**
1st Monday of Month, 8:00 p.m.
Albany Community Center
741 Lake Ave.
Albany, MN 56307
- District 16**
1st Wednesday of Month, 5:30 p.m.
United Methodist Church
1701 S.E. 8th Ave.
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Handicap Accessible, Non-Smoking
- District 18**
1st Tuesday of Month, 6:30 p.m.
Long Prairie Alano Club
21 2nd Ave.
Long Prairie, MN 56347
- District 21**
2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m.
Bemidji Alano Club
1225 Anne St.

Districts 10, 14, 17, 19 and 20
Not currently active.

Delegate’s Report

I hope you are all having a nice summer and all are happy, joyous and free. These past few months I have been making my Delegate’s report to the districts, and I’ve enjoyed my travels around the area. I have made copies of all the information I received from the General Service Conference. All those who attended were given copies of all the material. In my report, I went over all the material but specifically addressed the work that moved forward from the Conference. Many members have asked questions about the agenda items in our discussions. It is so good to see the care and concern the members have! I am very proud and honored to be your delegate.

In July I will be making reports in Districts, 3, 4, 6, 11, and 12. I am looking forward to presenting and answering questions from members of these districts. I have been able to attend some district meetings and workshops while giving my report. Thank you to the districts for inviting me. I must say the food served has also been a plus – thank you again! On July 30, I have also been given an invitation to speak in Ely. It will be a busy month, but do not hesitate to request my services in any way to help anyone carry our message.

At our GSO level, new items are immediately available in CD and DVD formats in English, Spanish, and French. In English, the new items are:

“AA in Correctional Facilities”	DVD format (DV-02)	\$10.00
Set of three window shades: 12 steps, 12 traditions, 12 concepts		\$72.00

New items in French and Spanish are:

“Carrying the Message Behind These Walls”

“It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell”

“Marking on the Journey”

“Your AA General Service Office, the Grapevine, and the General Service Structure.”

These items are all in DVD format.

I serve on the CPC Committee at the General Service Conference, and here is an update. In Rye, NY at our committee meetings, we made seven suggestions to consider for the 61st General Service Conference. In the Spring 2010 edition of About AA, our newsletter for professionals, the focus is on the topic of “AA as a Resource for Drug and Alcohol Court Professionals.” It features an interview with the Honorable Rogelid F., a Class A Trustee. This issue as well as past issues may be accessed in GSO’s AA website, and copies may be made. As a reminder, if we use national and local CPC exhibits, please fill out the evaluation form accurately and send it back. Also, please look over the guidelines on “Volunteers Staffing an AA Exhibit.” We also have a list of all area CPC chairs in the US and Canada to gather shared experience.

Take Care,
God Bless,
Jon C.

Alternate Delegate’s Report

Hello Area 35,

Thank you for this continued opportunity to serve Area 35. I have enjoyed the opportunity to learn more and more about our service structure and how our area functions. Thank you for allowing me to attend the Spring Assembly in Detroit Lakes. It was wonderful to see many of you there and to watch the process of forming an Area 35 group conscience. A very special thanks to John for being willing to carry that message out to the General Service Conference.

We held our first Zonal Forum held in Bemidji on the 8th of May. Thanks to Carl from District 21 for helping set the event and location up. The event was well attended and received many favorable reviews. Thanks again to all helped coordinate the event. Our next Zonal Forum will be held in September in Zone 3.

I am in the process of getting a guest speaker for our Area 35 Service Workshop which will take place in January at the Coates Plaza in Virginia. Information and flier will be available at the August committee meeting and at the Fall Assembly. This year’s workshop will be held on January 15th and 16th.

Finally, I want to thank all the districts who send me their district meeting minutes and for all the work that is being done around Area 35 to carry our life saving message. Have a great summer and see you all in August.

Yours in Service,

Jim K.

Chair's Report

Hello area 35,

Its been a busy summer with personal stuff and just enjoying life. Hope all is well with everyone out there. Have been in contact with Steve from Area 36 about a combined workshop and am trying to set a date for it, If it works out.

Life has brought me more people to work with and keeping that part of my life busy. Hope you all are enjoying summer.

Yours in fellowship,
Michael (Jake) J.

Secretary's Report

Greetings Area 35,

Well since it has only been a week since the June Committee Meeting I have not been up to much except putting together the minutes from the meeting. I will be out of town for a couple of weeks so I need to get my report and the minutes done right away.

Please look through the June Committee Meeting Minutes and let me know if there are any corrections that need to be made. I am still having trouble with some of the email addresses that I am sending the Area 35 Minutes and flyers to.

If you are not receiving the minutes and you are supposed to, please email me at secretary@area35.org. You can also email me if you would like to receive the Area 35 Minutes and flyers and I will add you to the list. I have all ready sent out three welcome letters to new groups in Area 35 and at the June Committee Meeting I was given two more new groups to send welcome letters.

It is exciting to know that AA is still growing and I hope to see their GSR at the Fall Assembly. I am still working with the Area Actions Booklet Committee on making some guidelines. I am hoping to get into contact with them before I leave, otherwise, right away when I return.

Thanks Area 35 for allowing me to serve
Heidi R.

Treasurer's Report

“Our spiritual way of life is safe for future generations if, as a Society, we resist the temptation to receive money from the outside world. But this leaves us with a responsibility - one that every member ought to understand. We cannot skimp when the treasurer of our group passes the hat. Our groups, our areas, and A.A. as a whole will not function unless our services are sufficient and their bills are paid.”

Bill W, 1957

The Area is fully supported by individual and group contributions, as well as some other and special contributions (shown below). Individuals and groups contribute to their District, Area, and General Service Office in any amount they see fit. We would meet our Area’s current budgeted needs if each group would contribute \$12.88 a month or \$2.86 per week.

Please also consider showing your gratitude for sobriety by contributing a dollar or two for each year of your so-

briety. We call this the BIRTHDAY PLAN

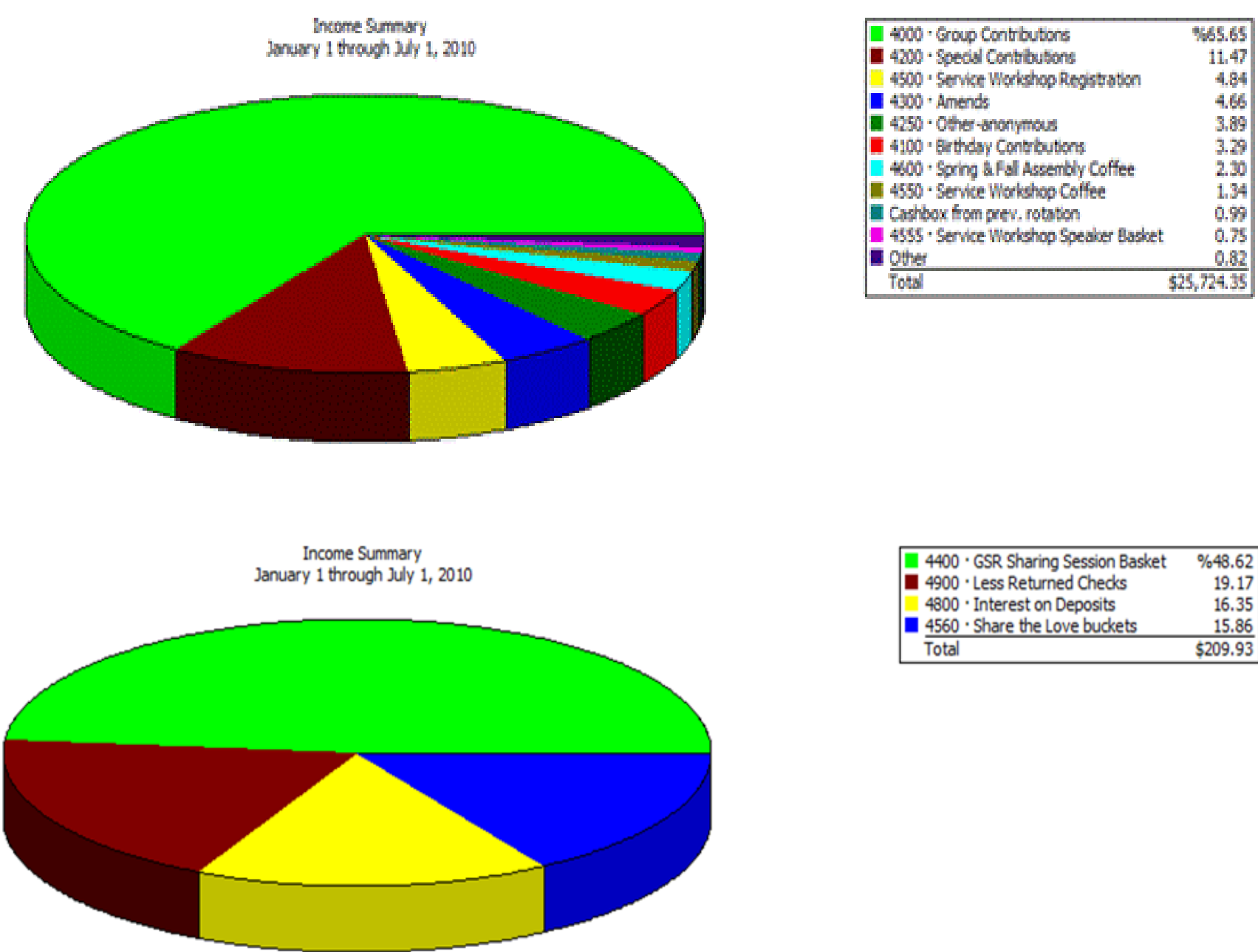


Contributions to Area 35 can be sent to:

Northern MN Area Assembly
PO Box 328
Brainerd, MN 56401

Please be sure to include your group name and number. If you are sending a birthday contribution, please list also your home group or district. Thanks! Sarah K.

INCOME

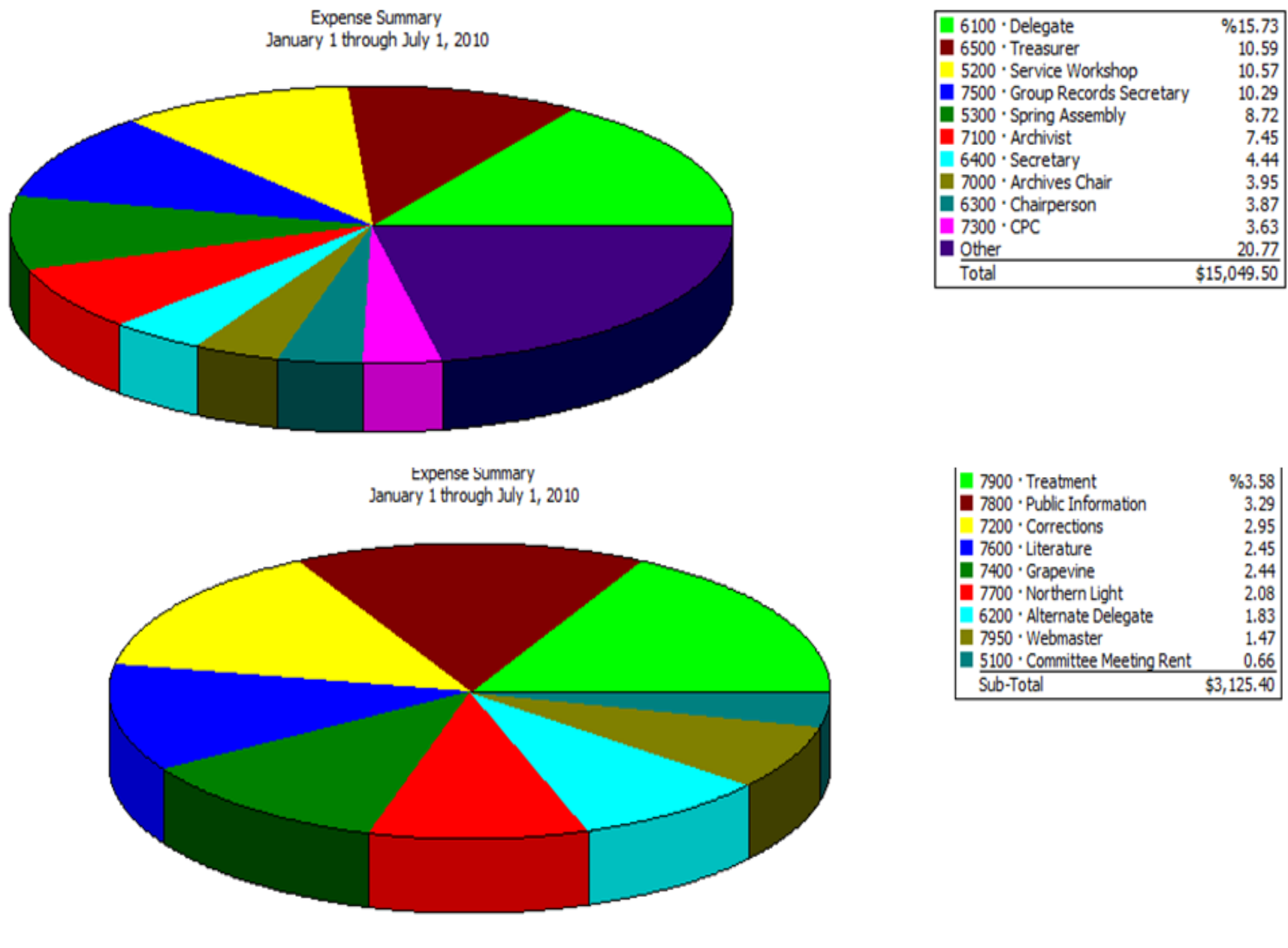


Treasurer's Report Continued

Income		
Cashbox from prev. rotation	255.00	
4000 • Group Contributions	16,886.87	
4100 • Birthday Contributions	847.00	
4200 • Special Contributions	2,950.00	
4250 • Other-anonymous	1,000.00	
4300 • Amends	1,200.00	
4400 • GSR Sharing Session Basket	102.07	
4500 • Service Workshop Registration	1,245.00	
4550 • Service Workshop Coffee	345.55	
4555 • Service Workshop Speaker Basket	193.01	
4560 • Share the Love buckets	33.29	
4600 • Spring & Fall Assembly Coffee	591.99	
4800 • Interest on Deposits	34.32	
4900 • Less Returned Checks	40.25	
Total Income	25,724.35	

4200 • Special Contributions	
4201 • Keep it Simple Weekend	400.00
4202 • St. Cloud Roundup	2,550.00
Total 4200 • Special Contributions	2,950.00

Expenses



Expense		Delegate	2,366.67
5100 • Committee Meeting Rent	100.00	Alternate Delegate	275.72
5200 • Service Workshop		Chairperson	582.32
Coffee	362.92	Secretary	668.83
Room Rental	850.00	Treasurer	1,593.30
Speaker Expenses	377.26	Archives Chair	594.97
Total 5200 • Service Workshop	1,590.18	Archivist	1,121.35
		Corrections	444.22
		CPC	545.58
		Grapevine	367.86
5300 • Spring Assembly	1,312.64	Group Records Secretary	1,548.26
		Literature	369.06
		Northern Light	312.39
		Public Information	495.61
		Treatment	539.00
		Webmaster	221.54

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC INFORMATION

I enjoyed delivering a Public Information presentation at the District 9 June meeting on June 19, 2010 in Hibbing, MN. I presented on the following:

- P.I. History
- P.I. Purpose
- How to Get Your Local PI Committee Started
- Suggested P.I. Committee Goals
- P.I./C.P.C. Conference Approved Literature and Materials

If you would like to have a P.I. presentation in your district please contact

me. This presentation could be part of your regular district meeting or a district workshop. We can also coordinate a P.I. presentation with a C.P.C. presentation.

Area 35 is getting ready to carry our message at the Minnesota State Fair on Saturday, August 28 and Sunday, August 29. Our AA booth is moving from the Grandstand to the Education Building at the state fair. I am pleased to announce we now have volunteers covering all of our two- hour shifts on those two days. I am starting a list of individuals who are willing to be on a waiting list of State Fair Volun-

teers. If you would like to be on this waiting list please contact me with your: Name; Phone Number; Email Address; Mailing Address and District. I will be sending out additional information soon for those of you who have signed up for shifts in our booth.

I would like to thank Area 35 for the opportunity to be of service to you.

Roger R.

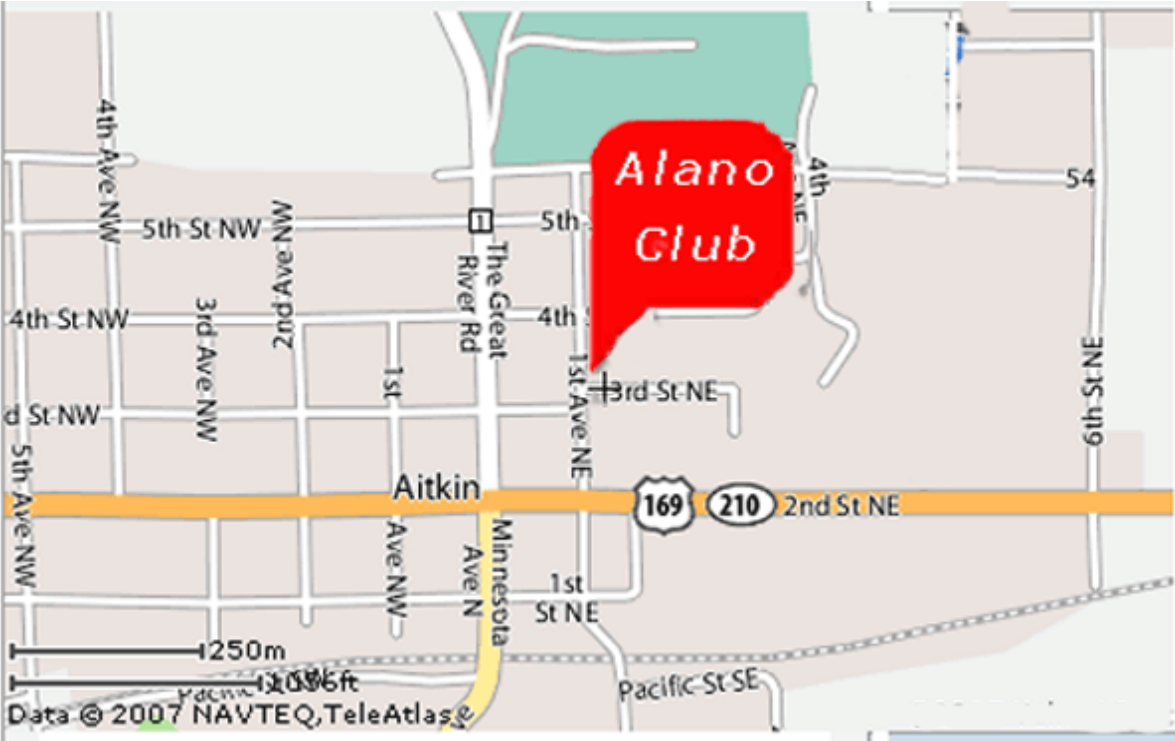
Inclement Weather Procedure For Area 35 Events

1. Area Chair calls to cancel and/or re-schedule.
2. Based on DOT report, national weather service, individual safety being paramount
3. Chair asks for weather reports from all DCM’s from respective districts either by email Or phone for those that don’t have computers.
- 4 Chair notifies the Alano society in Aitkin on food preparations and possible re-schedule to following Sunday.
5. Chair contacts webmaster results put on Area 35.org and reschedule date and time.
6. Districts contact their DCM in inclement weather for updates on cancellation.

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.

Come join us!



Submissions to the Northern Light

General submissions to the *Northern Light* are very welcome! Feel free to send letters or articles that are pertinent to general service in Alcoholics Anonymous in Northern Minnesota. However, 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.

Submissions are preferred electronically using a Word or WordPad document to the Area’s newsletter e-mail address: northernlight@area35.org. Most other file formats can also be accepted. You may also send articles or letters to my postal address, listed on page 2. The deadline for each Issue is printed on the front page.

Letters to the Editor or opinion articles should have a title. They also can not be anonymous please include the first name, last initial and name of the city where the author is from. If you have any questions regarding submitting an item for the *Northern Light*, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you!

Daniel R.
Area 35
Northern Light Editor

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

CORRECTIONS

Greetings Area 35

It is hard to believe that we are into summer and over half way through the first year of this rotation already. Just where does the time go? I hope you are all enjoying your summer so far.

It has been a busy time for the District Chairs as I continue to forward contacts needed for inmates that are due to be released soon from correctional facilities. We are busy trying to come up with ways to get more individuals involved in service and 12 step work through our corrections programs.

We have talked about the need for individual workshops within the Districts to try to get more involved. All the District's are working hard to fulfill and meet their responsibilities to carry the message into their correctional facilities in their areas. I want to personally thank everyone that volunteers their time to do this. Are you willing to give of your time and become a volunteer to carry the message into a correctional facility?

I received information that there is a Bridging the Gap Workshop coming up September 10-12th in Bloomington, Mn. This workshop will have presentations and discussions on the Temporary Contact Program, Re-Entry and Pre-Release Contacts and A.A. Informational Programs.

If you would like more information or a flier of this event you can contact me or go to www.BTGWW.org This will be a great way to get information on how we can continue to carry the message in our great state of Minnesota!

Butch R. Area 35 Treatment Chair and I will be holding our Zonal 2 Treatment/ Corrections Workshop in Thief River Falls on October 1st the weekend of the Fall Assembly. We would love to have you join us! Thank you for the opportunity to be of service, Kelly D.

ARCHIVES

First i would like to thank Jim, Sarah, Jack and Heidi for the greet job they did on the Zonal Form in Bemidji. I don't think could have did better. I went to the WCRAASC meeting. I can't believe how much you can get done in a short time. Jerry did a greet job as chair. As well as Joanne and Jon. I will be the Greeter's chair I would like all DCM,S to find out who would like to help as greeters and let me know. The sooner the better so i can make a time schedule out. The more we get the less time each has to work. This is greet time to meet new AA people and have fun doing it.

I received an email from the Archives chair Area 10 Colorado. He requesting information how Area 35 dose Archives. Brad has agreed to contact him. Thank you brad for your help.

Archives Continued

District 5 has tentatively scheduled a Zonal Archives Workshop on Nov.14th to be held in Otsego at the Elk River Alano. Rita will be in touch with myself and Brad.

We are having a Archives workshop in dist:18 at Motley on August 7th . I don't have the time yet. I will let you know when i know. I am making copies of " Our AA General Service Center The Alcoholic Foundation of Yesterday. Today And Tomorrow " .Not a lot to report from Kathy in Dist:6 due to her health. Rita in dist: 5 reports that hopefully they well put an Action Book together this year. She is working on the Financial history report for the fall Assembly.

Yours in Service
Art A.

ARCHIVIST

Greetings Everyone. The display at the Superior Round-up was very well received. I needed 22 tables to set everything up. The Archives collection and display is a living organism. I did a display as a joint effort with Area 36 at the Gopher state round-up on Memorial Day weekend. I could not bring the entire display due to lack of space but I will bring items that will complement Area 36's display. We did have a great time over the weekend.

I am making great progress on inventorying the collection. I am removing staples as collating and refilling as I inventory. My goal is to make the items in the collection easier to access. I am also using multiple descriptions in the inventory spread sheet to make it more searchable, albeit some descriptions are rather arbitrary.

I am making steady progress on converting the analog tapes to a digital format. Some of the tapes have deteriorated but the majority has been salvageable. I am glad I didn't skimp on the tape quality in the 90's, hats off to Maxell UDXL II's and a couple of Sansui and Pioneer tape decks. The issue is that 90 minute tapes take 90 minutes to get on to the digital recorder. It only takes 10 minutes to burn a CD after that. I have received requests for copies of long timer interviews that I have filled. If it is on a playable tape I will convert it.

I just returned from the International Convention In San Antonio where I had the privilege of being a volunteer in the G.S.O. Archives display.

Thanks again for this tremendous opportunity to be of service and carry the message.

Brad I.

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (C.P.C.)

On June 19, Roger R. and I visited District 9 in Hibbing for their monthly meeting. We were able to listen to our Delegate give his report, participate in District 9's meeting by talking about our respective chair goings on in Area 35 and answer any questions members may have had about C.P.C. work. I let District 9 members know about a future conference coming (January 26-28, 2011) in Duluth. I was contacted by the Minnesota Juvenile Officers Association and asked if AA would be interested in having an exhibit for the Professionals. AA's function at the conference would be to have a exhibit with pamphlets for the Professionals and have live attendants there to answer any questions on AA is and AA is not and how our program works to keep us sober. There are people in District 9 that are interested in participating at this conference, and I will also be talking with District 12 about member participation.

In Service,
Doug N.

GRAPEVINE

No report given!

WEBMASTER

Greetings,

The updating of meetings continues on the Area Website. DCM's are updating the meetings lists for their districts. If there have been any changes to your meeting, please contact your DCM so that they can in turn forward the information on to me and I can correct or add the info to our website. Also, if you would like an event posted on the Area Events Calendar, please send me the information along with a flyer. I trust you are all enjoying this beautiful summer.

Love & Peace,
Ione B.

GROUP RECORDS

Hi everyone,
I hope everybody is having a great summer. Thanks Jon for your report on the General Service conference. It's been a busy summer, and I continue to answer everybody's emails and I also continue updating FNV (Fellowship New Vision) GSO's database of groups and individuals. I also continue updating aameetinglocator.org (Area 35/36 meeting list website).

I am going to be sending Ione more group information, so that she can update the Area 35 website.

Thank you all for allowing me to serve.
Laurie R.

LITERATURE

No report given!

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

Northern Light

Hello Area 35,

I hope you are having as fun filled a summer as I have. Every weekend has been deciding what to do that will be the most fun or where I can be of most service. This last week I went to participate at the District 12 meeting at the Alano Club in Duluth where our Area 35 Delegate Jon gave his report. Nice to see Bruce B. and Bob J. show up to give support when asked to by Jon and the group. I Got to help set up and be a part of the discussion on the agenda items. There was much lively discussion on singleness-of-purpose as well. The food was great — Thanks Patty! Saturday I went to a Sober wedding with again much great food - See a trend with this? Sunday a Sober golf turney I play in every year - I bet your wondering if there was anything to eat!

I made a point of keeping this issue down to 20 pages. I was able to do this because the Aitken Committee Meeting minutes are smaller than the Assembly minutes. I still was able to add an article submitted by Mary S. from Grand Rapids. The article is on the next page. I also added an article from a past issue of the Northern Light I liked by one of our past Delegates Bruce B. Panel 44 entitled Service Experience Strength, and Hope from a Past Delegate - You may find this article on page 17! Sarah's Treasurer's report on pages 7 and 8 have some nifty colored graph's and chart's that will be seen in the online version but may not be represented as accurately with b/w in the paper issue - We'll have to see how it turns out!

I would like to see some articles submitted by members of Area 35 who attended the 2010 International Convention in San Antonio. If no one from Area 35 submits one I may look to add something from other sources in the next issue!

Onward and upward with the help of a Loving Higher Power
Daniel R.

Treatment

Greetings from a warm Northern Minnesota.

There hasn't been much activity in the area of Treatment. Our local Center has only three clients but that has given me the chance to meet them all. My project of updating the Temporary Contact Lists on the Group, District and Area level is coming along well.

I have some forms that I will be sharing with Corrections at the upcoming Meeting in Aitkin. If favorable we may be able to use them throughout Area 35 as a standard form. Things will get busy shortly as we have various events coming up beginning in the month of August.

Recently was able to speak at the Buhl Academy in Buhl, Mn. and also spent the evening of the 4th at NERCC in Saginaw, Mn. with one of my sponcees. Made a few contacts and it is amazing how well that Group is in attendance.

Not much more but the Journey continues and am glad and grateful to be able to be of Service.
Robert (Butch) R.



2010 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

The 2010 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous was held July 1-4 in San Antonio, Texas with the theme "A Vision for You." A.A. members and guests from around the world celebrated A.A.'s 75th year at this event.

Your Northern Light Editor is requesting that Area 35 members who attended the International Convention submit an article relating your experiences!

Looking for a Minnesota A.A. meeting? Try the meeting locator at
aameetinglocator.org/

Northern Light Article

Old Timer's

I think that sometimes the AA Old Timer gets a bad rap. What comes to mind when I hear someone call a member of AA an Old Timer is some old fart that has a comment for everything that is said, and it doesn't matter if they are right or wrong, everyone nods their head in approval because he or she has been hanging around the rooms of AA the longest.

I have a new perspective of the Old Timer and that's because I know Jerry W. He would probably consider his home group the 6:00 pm Thursday Night Big Book Study that meets downstairs in the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids, MN. He is usually there around 5:30 or earlier, to meet with new and old friends and always ready to talk and joke. He attends his home group regularly and on a weekly basis, even though he recently celebrated 29 years of sobriety. He continues to work with new people who want to live a life without alcohol. He takes each person under his wing and together they attend his home group as well as meet weekly at his home and read the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous paragraph by paragraph. Together they study the directions to sobriety as outlined in the book. He teaches and encourages the new person how to live a sober life. He was recently called by the local hospital to help transport a couple of drunks to a local Detox Center. These two people had no one else to turn to for help. But Jerry and his wife drove them to Virginia and safely deposited them to a Detox that wasn't full.

I'm not saying that there aren't other members of AA in District 16 who do things like this, but I am saying that the number of AA members drop off as the number of years of sobriety increase. It's sad, but true. It's easy to take on higher positions in the program of AA or leave the program altogether because things are going well in one's life... and forget what it's like to be the newest person in the room. Those feelings of loneliness, guilt, low self confidence and battered self-esteem don't go away easily. The financial problems, the family problems and the job problems caused by drinking and spending more money than we earn create many untold problems. What brings the whole AA program home is when one drunk puts their arm around another drunk and says "...Welcome to AA... can I get you a cup of coffee?"

AA turned 75 years old this past June 2010, and Jerry will turn 75 years old July 2010. So, Happy Birthday Jerry – and many, many more.

-Submitted by: Mary S, Grand Rapids, District 16

AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETING
June 6, 2010

9:00 A.M. Action Chair Committee Meetings

10:30 am Area Committee Meeting

Call to Order Open with the Serenity Prayer

Past Delegates in attendance were recognized: JoAnne N. (Panel 58), Jerry S. (Panel 56), Tim C. (Panel 52), Tom A. (Panel 50), Suzie A. (Panel 48), and Bruce B. (Panel 44)

Additions/Corrections to the Agenda:

Hospitality Suite at WCRAASC

Approve February 2010 Area Committee Meeting Minutes: *Motion made to approve the February 2009 Area Committee Meeting Minutes. All in favor, passed unanimously.*

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE-Jon C.- Thank you so much for the opportunity to represent Area 35 as your delegate at the 60th General Service Conference held at Ryebrook, NY. I was confident that I was prepared to discuss the agenda items in committee and at the Conference. This was totally due to the Spring Assembly, where we discussed these items and you gave me a group-informed conscience to carry to the Conference. I would like to thank each one of you. I want to apologize for not having a report in the *Northern Light*. I wrote a report and e-mailed to our editor on May 5 around 11 a.m. I received a confirmation that it was sent. I failed to respond to Dan's e-mail and follow up to make sure he received my report, and for that I am sorry. I promise to do better. I sent an e-mail with my report to the officers, chairs, DCMs and past delegates. This will not happen again. I will be giving a delegate's report back after this committee meeting. DCMs, please schedule my report back if you have not. I apologize to the districts that I had to cancel for health reasons. We held our planning meeting for the WCRAASC at Grandview Lodge in Nisswa at 6:10 p.m. on May 19. This was an organizational meeting to fill chair positions. We have filled all the chairs and will need volunteers at this conference. More information will follow and we will be having another meeting on Sept. 1 at 6 p.m. at Grandview Lodge in Nisswa. All are welcome. I received the quarterly group contribution statement for Area 35 from the General Service Office. This report reflects contributions through March 20, 2010. Our total contributions for Area 35 for the first quarter were \$5,165.95. In 2009, 20.7% of our groups contributed, and in 2010 to date, 17.91% contributed. It is my hope that we can try harder to contribute to our General Service Office. Our additional forum in Rapid City, SD is coming together. We have received confirmation that Rod B. will be attending this forum at the expense of our General Service Office. I will keep everyone informed. We have a great opportunity to shape the history of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are being asked to fill out a *Grapevine* survey to help determine the future and direction of the *Grapevine*. This is the opportunity for each and every member to express their concerns. We have until Dec. 31, 2010 to send our concerns. Please do! Thank you so much for your support. I will work harder as your delegate to make sure reports are made, answer your concerns and keep our membership informed.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE-Jim K.- Greetings Area 35 AA, I am hoping you are all enjoying this beautiful weather we have been having and are getting a chance to get out and enjoy it. I want to thank you for allowing me to attend the Spring Assembly in DL. It was wonderful to see so many members actively involved in the process of forming our Area 35 conscience. And of course a very special thanks to John for being willing to carry that message out to the General Service Conference. May brought the opportunity to be a part of our first Zonal Forum held in Bemidji on the 8th. Thanks to Carl from District 21 for helping set the event and location up. The event was well attended and received many favorable reviews. It was truly a privilege to pull up and see the Thief River contingency who were willing to drive the distance and bring so many individuals to the event. Thanks again to all helped coordinate the event. Our next Zonal Forum will be held in September in Zone 3. I will be contacting DCM's today and this week to solidify the time and location. May also allowed me the privilege to hear John's report back from the General Service Conference as we attended the District 7 delegate's report on the 22nd. Thanks for doing such a great job John and thank you District 7 for hosting the event. I am looking forward to getting the chance to hear if for the second time around today. Who knows that incredible Area 35 event takes place in January? That's right, it's our annual Area 35 Service Workshop. This year's workshop will be held on January 15th and 16th at the Coates Plaza in Virginia, MN. Be there or be square. I have been working with Kim, the events planner for the Coates, and I think we have a nice arrangement. I will be contacting our past and current Delegate's to line up a guest for the event. We will be working extra hard this year on having the workshop follow more of a workshop format. DCM's will be contacted in October with requests for districts to participate. A flyer will also be available at our next Committee meeting. Finally, I want to thank all the districts who send me their district meeting minutes and for all the work that is being done around Area 35 to carry our life saving message.

CHAIR-Michael (Jake) J.- Well is has finally slowed down a bit. After the zonal forum and a couple of district meetings most of my time has been on the internet answering a couple of meeting requests from our website and trying to give some input on our over-site committee. I have completed our 990 for the IRS using the data we had so far. I have also entered our non-profit status changes and verification to the state. I had the privilege of attending Gopher State Round-up and watching the Twins at Target Field for the first time. Thanks for the minutes from the districts; I can finally enjoy reading them. I have spent sometime in the fellowship attending the Zim Alanon Open Speaker Meeting, preparing for and being a part of the Iron Range Get Together that turned out great. I was able to spend some time talking with Judy L. the delegate from Colorado that was our Saturday speaker. She is really enthralled by the way we try to inform our groups in Area 35 and the West Central Region. She said if Colorado was not so beautiful she would move here. What a compliment to our trusted servants. The time spent sharing spent sharing with old and new friends makes it all worthwhile. I was blessed with my sponsor from Arizona, Spanky visiting along with his wife Rebecca spending time with us and renewing our friendships. I was a little anxious about the forum in Bemidji but that seemed to go well. There were 22 people in attendance that were not Area Officers or Chairs. We missed Jon but look forward to having him heal up. I was able to attend the District 16 monthly and was warmly received by Mary and fellowship members. They are very much working to carry the message and have some wonderful members. I wish I had more time but with work, AA commitments, and living my life I have no time. Things are heading in the right directions in Area 35 thanks to all of you. We must always remember that what we do not only insure us but provides life to newcomers. That should always be our focus to carry AA's message wherever we go. We are the glue that holds Area 35 together and unified. I always remember what my buddy Butch used to say "If you're not having fun your work too hard, so enjoy the ride and God Bless."

SECRETARY- Heidi R.- Greeting Area 35! Since the Spring Assembly we had our first Zonal Forum and we had around 25 people in attendance. I will be out of town for two week starting June 18th so I will need to get the minutes done before I leave so I can meeting the Northern Lights deadline. Please I am asking that you get me your June Committee reports to me by June 14th. I made flyer for the Fall Assembly and they are located on the table for people to take back to their groups. If anyone would like to get the flyer or minutes by email from me please write your name an email address on the tablet located by me. I am still having trouble with some of the email addresses not working so if you are suppose to be getting the minutes and are not come see me sometime today. The WCRAASC committee met a few weeks ago and I do have the notes from the meeting if people would like them. I only made a few copies but I can email them to you. Please just let me know. I have also emailed the three AA members who were willing to be a part of the committee to help with the Area Actions Booklet. I hope that I can have a chance to talk with them today about some ideas. I would like to give the Area the suggestion we have come up with by either the August Committee Meeting or the Fall Assembly. I hope everyone has a great summer.

TREASURER- Sarah K.- First and foremost, I owe the Area an amends. I somehow lost the cash bag from the Spring Assembly which contained the coffee money from Saturday's coffee sales. When I went to look through my stuff a month after the assembly, I found the cash box with the money from Sunday's coffee sales, but couldn't find the bank bag with Saturday's coffee money. I am so sorry that my carelessness resulted in this loss. In response to this I chose to replace your money. Total coffee costs for the weekend were \$591.99, we made \$182.75 on Sunday, so I wrote a check to the Area for the coffee fund for the remaining \$409.24 so there wouldn't be any loss to the Area. I really am so sorry about this, and I promise if you allow me to keep serving, I will try my upmost to NEVER lose your money again. I am sorry. So now, on to the financial reports. There are three reports available on the back table: Profit and Loss & the Balance Sheet, Detailed Expenditures & Budgets, and Group Contributions Listing. We'll start with the one titled "Profit & Loss" which shows a summary of our account activity for period 3, running from March 21-June 4, 2010. Our income for the period totaled \$6,912.48, under income you'll see we took in \$5,487.51 in Group contributions this period. We also had \$50 in birthday contributions! Yay! Now, here's my second amends: after I had made my bank deposit, and all the financial reports were finished, I found one last birthday contribution from JoAnne in my wallet. Sorry I missed it. It will appear on the next period's reports! Moving on, you'll see we received \$50.50 from the GSR sharing session, and \$13.97 from the buckets which were on the treasury tables next to the candy at the Spring Assembly. There is the \$591.99 for coffee, and \$21.26 in bank accrued interest. Then, there is a category titled "Less Returned Checks" what this consist of is monies returned to the area as they were not needed. During this period Butch (treatment chair) returned \$157 in monies unused/unneeded from the WCRAASC, and I found \$40.25 in cash in an envelope labeled with JoAnne's name which was amongst materials I received from Beth. Next, our event expenses totaled \$1,312.64 (Spring Assembly), and other expenses totaled \$3,644.76 (The Detailed Expenditures and Budgets report lists these other expenses out in more detail). So, we took in more this period than we spent. Very good. We are also under budget for the period. PTD budgeted expenses were \$6,176.83. Our YTD expenses total \$11,861.52, which is also under budget. YTD budgeted expenses were \$18,031.52. Our net income is \$9,369.37 and if you turn to the "Balance Sheet" you'll see our current bank balance is \$12,710.15, plus \$5 from our savings account, equals our total equity of \$12,715.15 (all reconciled). So, taking away our \$6,000 prudent reserve we have \$6,715.15 available for service. Amazing! A huge thanks goes out to the groups for supporting the Area thus far! Again, we have an annual operating budget of \$35,860, so to maintain the services to Area 35, we need contributions totaling over \$2,900.00 a month. Here's a more detailed breakdown of what this would amount to for each group: each of the 555 groups listed with our Area would need to contribute \$5.38 per month, or \$1.20 per week. However, only 41% of the 555 groups actually contribute to the Area. So, this means that the 232 contributing groups would need to contribute \$12.88 a month or \$2.86 per week to help cover the groups who are not contributing. More importantly, as an Area, we need to work on spreading the message of the need for group participation in the Seventh Tradition. We also need to emphasize the importance of the Birthday Plan! As a way to show your gratitude for your sobriety, on your AA birthday, consider sending a contribution to your group, the Area, District, and GSO in the amount of your accumulated years of sobriety. If I can help in any way, please let me know! Remember, only \$13 A MONTH from each contributing group will help us remain self-supporting as an Area! Upcoming expenses include the Joint Area 35/36 workshop where we get the valuable opportunity to collaborate with Area 36 and share ideas, concerns and solutions. We also have the August committee meeting (approximate cost to the area: \$450.00), a Zonal Forum in Zone 3 in September (approximate cost to the area: \$140), the Fall Assembly (approximate cost to the area: \$3,500 - \$4,000), and the Winter Service Workshop (approximate cost to the area: \$3,500 - \$4,000) to consider. As for other actions I have been taking these past few months, bank account statements are being mailed to Jake J. our Area Chair to ensure another set of eyes are always on the bank account. At the suggestion of our finance committee I checked into the possibility of putting our prudent reserve into a separate account which could only be accessed with both parties on the account being present in the bank to make the transfer. This was a do-able thing, so now I'm just waiting for the go-ahead. Per a suggestion from Bob and Dee, I also checked on getting some sort of carbonless copy for area expense vouchers. I checked with a printing place about making up a set of forms based on our expense voucher, and they said they could do that for us. I'll report the exact cost of this at the August committee meeting if it's something the Area would be interested in doing. I'd also like to see a sample of what the other Area uses. For now I just bought a \$12 carbonless copy book and hand-wrote the expenses categories. I was also very privileged to attend and put on a presentation on the Area Treasury at a wonderful Zonal Forum in lovely Bemidji on May 8. I thought we had a good turnout (around 26 people?), and there was some great sharing of concerns and solutions by the members attending. We handed out evaluation forms, and I'm looking forward to hearing the results! If you would like the financial reports emailed to you as well, please send me an email requesting to be added to the email list. Thank you for letting me serve you in Area 35. Please send any contributions to Northern MN Area 35, PO Box 328, Brainerd, MN 56401, and be sure to include your **Group Name, Number, and a return mailing address** so I know who to send the Thank You to! Please feel free to call or email (treasurer@area35.org) if there is any treasury information I can get for

(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)
you. Sarah K.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS

PUBLIC INFORMATION-Roger R –The State Fair Booth has been moved from the Grandstand to the education building. We need staff for 2 days at the State Fair and Area 35 is sending \$500.00 to Area 36 for the State Fair Booth cost. I have a sign-up sheet for anyone who is interested in manning the State Fair Booth during the 2 days. I would like to get a list of all of the PI Chair from each district. Both the PI and CPC chairs would like to go to each district meeting by invitation instead of having a workshop. We are attending our first district meeting in Hibbing June 19th. If your district cannot afford to have us at your district meeting, it can be worked out. Dave from District 6 says they are updating meeting lists and that their delegates report was rescheduled due to medical issues. Charles the PI/CPC chair for District 8 is having a PI luncheon in March. Right now he is taking bids from businesses to get meeting schedules. Their newcomer meeting in District 8 is going well. Mark the DCM from District 7 let everyone know they have a new PI chair, but could not be here today. Mark has been working on updating meeting lists for the Group Records Chair and they are having a CPC luncheon in August. The DCM from District 11 is still working on getting committee chairs. Carl from District 21 talked about their luncheon bringing in disappointing results and did the County Fair. Carl also stated the presentations at the schools are going well. Jean from district 1 is looking for County Fair and State Fair volunteers. Gayle the DCM from District 13 let the group know that the PI chair is still working on updating meeting schedules. He has been working with the Area Group Records Secretary and Webmaster to make sure meetings are correct. District 12 also has a beginners meeting with the treatment center. Bill D. the CPC/PI chair from District 3 talked about when they place flyers up around the community announcing their AA phone line number, their calls go up.

DISTRICT 7- Mark N. -I received a large file of G.S.O. Group Information Sheets from our Area 35 Group Records Chair, Laurie she needs the District files to be updated and cleaned up. I sorted through them and handed out folders to the GSR's and will hopefully get them back this month it's a slow process. The importance of keeping updated records becomes obvious when we look at the many and varied meeting lists out there. In print there is the Regional AA Directories from the GSO as well as the District's and even some from the Area 35. All these places have meeting schedules. It's a constant and ongoing process of keeping The importance of GSR's and contact people from the many groups as well as the added redundancies of the districts, Area, and GSO becomes clear, we all play a part in this, and everyone's input and help is very much needed. These meeting lists are one of the lifelines to AA. When someone from out of town is visiting and needs a meeting they should be able to go online or make a phone call or check the newspaper and find a list with accurate information, people just getting out of rehab or prison as well. Some meetings in existence are not on the phone list and meeting that do not exist are on these lists. It is important that the people in meetings check periodically to see they are on the meeting list and that the contact, time and place information is accurate. The Districts, Areas, and GSO must also be vigilant in keeping good updated records. We are also conducted a Spring workshop/Delegates report Saturday, May 22nd at the First Congregational Church thanks to Jon for making the trip down, it was very informative and interesting. We have been enjoying good attendance and participation at our District meetings and functions. We can all be grateful for that, we have most chair positions filled with 2 exceptions but have interested persons and should have a complete crew next meeting. We will be hosting a District 7 picnic Saturday, July 31st, 11am at Lum Park in Brainerd we will be serving roast pork. Thanks for letting me serve.

DISTRICT 11- Gary H. - All commitments are being met and the district voted to meet on odd months only. Yours in Service.

GROUP RECORDS-Laurie R. - Hi everyone. Well I finally got moved and my new address is in the latest issue of the NL. I know most of you have not received it yet, but I assure you it is on its way. I mailed them on Friday. Also I appreciate the DCM's and GSR's for getting updated group info to me. I also pass that info on to Ione our webmaster, so that we have updated info on the website. I also have been updating aameetinglocator.org with information from FNV (Fellowship New Vision). Just a reminder if you want your group to be listed on aameetinglocator.org and the Area 35 website they have to be active and registered with GSO and to have a contact person. Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions about your group.

NORTHERN LIGHT-Daniel R.- Hello Area 35, while working on this last issue of the NL noticed that an email I had sent out had bounced back from Doreen in District 18 so I called her about this and she said Mike D. has taken the position of DCM for 18 but she didn't have the update info yet! I changed the DCM's name for District 18 awaiting Mike's details. I usually do have to call someone in the Area about something and it gives me a chance to fellowship with them as well. I enjoy this part of my job very much. One of the things you may notice different in this issue is that I changed the email addresses of the Area Officers, Chairs and DCM's on page 2 to the ones we have set up on the area35.org web site. These Forwarders set up provide a measure of spam protection the generic email programs may not! Reminder to Area Officers, Chairs and DCM's - If your email address or other information changes, please inform the Area Webmaster, Group Records Secretary and myself so we can update! A quick email or phone call to all of us would do it! Please check this issue of the Northern Light to make sure your personal information is up-to-date and that your District meeting info is also correct. If it is not please write it down and had it to me so I can update for the next issue! Also the same for the Calendar of Events. Please make sure to read the minutes from our Spring Assembly. Besides all of our reports it has the Agenda Items we discussed and how we wanted Jon to vote on them. Thank you Heidi for formatting the minutes so I could easily add them to this issue. Last thing: Please write an article for the Northern Light. I have to fill up space and if I don't get articles from Area 35 I have to add cheesy jokes or articles extracted from other Area Newletters!

DISTRICT 2- Rodney P.- Greetings from district 2! We held our last district meeting May 16th 2010, there were 10 in attendance with 5 being new GSR's. According to the GSR's that were there, meetings are well attended, groups are fulfilling their financial obligations. As DCM I attended Spring Assembly in Detroit Lakes, the Zonal Forum in Bemidji (I have to say thank you to the Area Officer's what a great presentation all I heard were good things from the people who attended from our district.) I have made about half the meetings in our district. Some good things have happened which I take no credit for. All I did was suit-up and showed-up and talk about service. Some of the things that happened, a new secretary, one group found out they hadn't had a business meeting since summer of 2009 and business meetings are now scheduled each month, another is sending money to all entity's of AA. God is working in District 2 there's two that have shown interest in filling the chair positions that are open. We will see what takes place at the next district meeting. I hope to see everybody at our next committee meeting if not. I'll see you hopefully at the fall assembly.

DISTRICT 16- Mary S. - As of today, I've attended 11 out of 21 group meetings in District 16. We are having a combined Delegates Report in Hibbing with District 9 on June 19th. There will also be a PI/CPC presentation at that same meeting, plus a potluck. I have set aside the last Thursday of every month to have coffee at Bixbys from 4:30 to 6:00. Anyone from District 16 can visit with me about whatever. Attendance at our district meetings has been good. We are planning a District Inventory this fall.

CORRECTIONS- Kelly D. - We met as a committee this morning and there were 9 in attendance. We had representation for Districts 1, 8, 9, 21, 5, 13, 3 and 6. We had discussion about the many inmates that are requesting a contact when they are released from prison lately through our contact program. Because of the difficulty some of the chairs are having in finding contacts we discussed getting a contact list together for each individual District for those that are willing to be of service. I am happy to say that they all have been able to find contacts for all of them but again the need for volunteers to do this 12 step work is limited. I have had many that have been released to District 21 and District 3 and I would like to thank Brent T. and Jeff C. for making sure that contacts are being made for the inmates releasing to their areas. We also discussed having Corrections Workshops within the individual Districts to try to get more involved in service. I would also like to thank Jeff E. Corrections Chair for District 13 for attending the very first Transitional Fair at the St. Cloud prison on May 12th while I was in Arizona that week. I also received information on a Bridging the Gap Workshop that will be held in September in Bloomington and will be emailing the flier to all the chairs so they can distributed it amongst the area. If anyone would like more information on this you can go to www.BTGWW.org. This workshop will have a lot of information on how we can be of service and carry the message. I attended Jon C our Area 35 Delegate's report back in my home District 5 on May 17th. I would like to thank him for his hard work and service to Area 35. I also have been asked by Jon and Jerry S. to serve on the committee for the WCRAASC that will be held in March 2011 at the Grandview Lodge in Nisswa. We had our first meeting on May 19th and I have volunteered to do the fliers and programs for this event. I received an email that the Moose Lake MSOP needed a case of Big Books and a case of 12 and 12's. I would like to thank Tom A. and the Wednesday Night Primary Purpose Group for their contribution for a case of Big Books and the Into Action group for their contribution of \$50.00 toward the books needed. Grateful to be of service.

DISTRICT 3- Jeff C. - District meetings have been well attended with some new groups and members represented. We still have a ways to go. We have been working together to visit groups and update group information forms. Committee chairs are developing plans to meet their commitments. We often stress the importance of not only having a job, but doing the work as well. At our last meeting I reported an excerpt from box 459 and other publications provided to me by Delegate Jon C. We stressed the importance of talking to our groups about the need for self-support. We were working with the suggestion of contributing the price of a drink for each meeting. Bill D. put together a flyer for GSR's to bring to their groups. We have copies available. PI/CPC committee has begun the task of distributing district meeting schedules and of posting our district hotline phone number at all possible community bulletin boards. Bill talked to proprietors about keeping AA information posted on these boards. We need to talk with these people and explain what we are trying to accomplish. District 3 and 4 will have a Delegate report back on July 18th in Perham, MN. We have several open positions in our district the DCM, Alternate DCM, and Secretary due to job changed and relocations. At our May meeting several people expressed their interest in taking on these responsibilities. We are scheduled to have an election at our district meeting in June.

DISTRICT 4- Jim T. - (No Report Submitted and Not Present)

C.P.C-Doug N. - I would like a list of CPC chairs from each district emailed to me. The PI chair and I would like to go to each district meeting if invited instead of having a zonal workshop. We have been invited to Hibbing's district meeting June 19th. If your district cannot afford to invite us to your district meeting, it could be worked out so please talk with us. I received a letter from Mary S., the CPC coordinator in New York. There is a MN Juvenile Officers Association Meeting January 26-28 in Duluth at the Holiday Inn. I am asking if anyone from Districts 8, 9, and are willing man the exhibit. This would be a great opportunity for CPC and PI. Dave from District 6 let the committee know they are updating meeting lists and that the delegates report was rescheduled Charles the CPC/PI let the group know that their Beginner's Meeting is going well. Mark the DCM for District 7 let the committee know they are having a CPC luncheon coming up in August. They are also going to be participating in the Crow Wing and Aitkin County Fairs. Gary the DCM from District 11 is working on getting committee chairs filled. Carl from District 21 felt the luncheon they was disappointing and does the county fair. Their high school presentations are going all right and during their district inventory the group stated interest but little involvement from district. Jean from District 1 reported that they are planning to do the County Fair and the State Fair. Bill D. the CPC/PI chair from District 3 reported that their new schedules are out. District 13 CPC chair, John D., wrote a report letting the committee know that they have been asked to speak to the veterans at the St. Cloud VA with 50 veterans in attendance. The CPC chair in District 13 addressed the lawyers and judges about AA cooperating with the legal community, spoke to area residents at the St. Cloud Public Library, visited Camp Ripley and spoke to soldiers with alcohol problems, and spoke with the CPC chair from the metro area.

DISTRICT 13- Gayle S. - Hello from District 13, PI committee has the new schedules ready for final, final, FINAL proof; he is also working with Area Group Records and Area Webmaster to make sure our meetings on the data base are correct. PI Committee and Treatment Committee have worked together in starting a beginners meeting that started May 5th. The topics that we discuss are the disease of alcoholism, program of recovery, and unity and other factors for recovery. The Treatment Committee is busy taking in meetings to Children's Home, Our House, Clara's House, Mental Health Care, Effective Living Center, Detox, VA Medical Center, and Passages. CPC Committee has worked with the St. Cloud VA, presented for Judges and Lawyers, along with presentations at Camp Ripley with soldiers who have been identified with a problem with alcohol, and working with Mary from Area 36 on an outreach program for the medical community. Literature and Archives are doing well in the district. District 13 is looking forward to joining with District 15 in Albany for our Delegate's report tomorrow, June 7th. Finally District 13 has contributed \$3000 to the Area since the start of the new rotation. Can you beat that? Thank you for allowing me to serve.

DISTRICT 1- Richard W. - We wish greetings to everyone from District 1 to the Area. The District is almost at the point of having a prudent reserve in our treasury, something that hasn't occurred in years. Some of the groups have very few attending their meetings, but we are blessed with AA members who continue to keep the doors open. We continue to have difficulty getting individuals to chair the jail meeting, and there also seems to be power plays going on. Priscilla is very diplomatic in the Corrections chair position

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

and will continue to field problems. The District will host a booth at the Polk County Fair again this year which always seems to distribute lots of literature. Overall the District seems in good shape. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

GRAPEVINE-Dee K. - First of all I want to thank the Area for sending me to the Spring Assembly it was an awesome time with new people in attendance. We had 10 people in attendance at the Grapevine/Literature committee meeting this morning. There was a lot of interest and questions in the Grapevine which made me think we need to have workshops in these district. We have been getting lots of orders from Gary in District 7 for the Grapevine. Randy in District 8 who was represented the Grapevine stated that the district has placed a cap on how much a chair can order without needing approval from the district. District 12 has also placed a cap on how much a chair can order without needing approval. There seems to be a lot of interest in District 6 looking for more information on the Grapevine. Sarah from District 12 is excited at the possibility of having a workshop in their district. District 18 does not have a Grapevine Chair at this time due to illness. Mike was newly elected as DCM for District 18 and feels the personal approach works better when asking people to do service work instead of a general announcement.

DISTRICT 18–Mike D. - We have elected a new district secretary. GSRs attendance at district meetings is up with more groups starting to get involved. We have elected a new DCM. Corrections volunteers are up but we are looking for more women volunteers. We are planning a PI/CPC luncheon. The district has voted to place a cap on DCM event expenditures (\$125 per event) with the option to increase amount as funds are available. Respectfully Submitted.

DISTRICT 21- Carl B. - He everyone district 21 is doing well, I was unable to attend the last district meeting, my daughter had a choir concert, and the meeting went along just fine. I am happy to report most of our positions are filled, always room for more help. We continue to have meetings in all the jails in our district, and meetings lists are kept up to date with our hotline number on them. Meeting lists are also placed in public places all over the district. I also want to add that we were fortunate to host the zonal forum in early May, I must admit I wasn't sure how it was going to go, but it was a great time, the area officers did a great job. If you have the chance to attend do yourself a favor and go, and make sure you participate.

WEBMASTER-Ione B - Greetings all, sorry I'm not able to attend the committee meeting today. Thanks to District 13 for getting me the info needed to update all of their meetings on our database. DCM's, please continue working on getting current information on your district's meetings so that our area database can be updated. I appreciate the hard work you're all putting in to this. If you have any questions, please contact me. Visits to our website in April were 1899 with 1316 unique visitors. In May there were 1955 visits with 1363 unique visitors. Thanks to all for allowing me to serve.

ARCHIVES-Art A. - First I would like to thank Jim, Sarah, Jack and Heidi for the great job they did on Zonal Form in Bemidji. I don't think they could have done better. I went to the WCRAASC meeting. I can't believe how much you can get done in a short time. Jerry did a great job as chair, as well as Joanne and Jon. I will be the Greeter Chair I would like all DCM's to find out who would like to help as greeters and let me know. The sooner the better so I can make a time schedule out. The more we get the less time each has to work. This is a great time to meet new AA people and have fun doing it. We had 4 in attendance today Art, Brad, Rita and Kathy. I received an email from the Archives chair Area 10 Colorado. He is requesting information on how Area 35 does Archives. Brad has agreed to contact him. Thank you Brad for your help. District 5 has tentatively scheduled a Zonal Archives Workshop on Nov 14th to be held in Otsego at the Elk River Alano. Rita will be in touch with me and Brad. We are having an Archives workshop in dist: 18 at Motley on August 7th. I don't have the time yet. I will let you know when I know. I am making copies of "Our AA General Service Center the Alcoholic Foundation of Yesterday, Today And Tomorrow". Not a lot to report from Kathy in Dist: 6 due to her health. Rita in dist 5: reports that hopefully they will put an Action Book together this year. She is working on the financial history report for the Fall Assembly.

ARCHIVIST- Brad I. - Since the Spring Assembly I had the full display set up at the Superior Round Up and a display as a joint effort with Area 36 at Gopher State Round Up. These displays were well received and had a huge amount of traffic. I had lots of questions to answer and had some great discussions on A.A. history. I think I have finished converting all the tapes of Area Functions to CD's. Some of the recordings and tape quality were terrible. I am now working on converting long time tapes to CD. I converted an interview to CD per a member request. This takes a lot of time. A 90 minute tape takes 90 minutes to convert to digital. After that it goes really fast. I recorded the District 5 annual Workshop per the DCM's request. I am working a shift at the GSO Archives display in San Antonio and I am looking forward to the opportunity. I also plan on attending the Archives breakouts also.

DISTRICT 5-Rita D. - Greetings from District 5. We are alive & well with all responsibilities being fulfilled. We had the Delegates Report back on May 7th following our District meeting with 13 in attendance. Jon also attended our District meeting & it was great to have him a part of this. A huge thanks to Jon for all your hard work and dedication to Alcoholics Anonymous! Our 12 Step & Service Workshop on May 22nd went well with 17 in attendance. A huge thanks to the committee for all their hard work, the speakers and Brad I for taping!! The Orientation Meeting at Sherburne County Probation was a success and is set to start again on July 8th. Thanks Heidi for your continued help with this! I have completed the Group Information Sheets and returned to Lori R. this morning. We will have a manned booth again this year at the Mille Lacs County Fair August 12th-15th. We've had a few changes in our District...Lisa stepped down as Literature Chair and Jake C. is our new Literature Chair. Lloyd recently stepped down as Corrections Chair, so we need a Corrections & Archives Chair. Skip has graciously accepted my request for him to be the contact person with Sherburne County Jail as he has worked with Mark in the past and currently as we are trying to get the men's program started again. We have a new GSR from Sisters of Sobriety (SOS) who has been at the last several District meetings, so welcome Hannah! Skip & I have visited a total of 31 out of 40 groups so far....thanks Skip for all your help! Our PI/CPC Chair will be working out of town over the next several months so, myself, Jake C. and Jack J. have volunteered to help with his duties during this time. I need to give a HUGE thanks to all members of District 5 for your willingness to serve-we have a lot of work to do & it ALWAYS gets done with their commitment to Alcoholics Anonymous. Thank you all & God Bless!!

DISTRICT 6-Kathie G. - At our May 20th district meeting we had planned a potluck and the delegate report. Unfortunately, Jon had to cancel his report so we had a regular district meeting and the potluck. Our "Simple Not Easy" group that meets on Sundays at 5:00pm will be having their four year anniversary celebration on Saturday June 19th starting at noon in the Foundation room at Delwood Recovery in Cambridge. There will be treats, beverages, and 2 speakers. Everyone is welcome. Isanti Alano held their annual one year banquet May 22 to honor those of us with one year of sobriety. We discussed having a booth at the Isanti County Fair and after much discussion of the cost of insurance we decided the district could not afford it at this time. A motion was made and seconded with no further discussion passed that we don't have a booth at the Isanti County Fair. The North Branch group will be having a booth at the Chisago County Fair at a reasonable cost. Our corrections chair Melissa had an update on what is going on in Isanti County Jail. We have been told to cut down on the number of people that will be going to the jail. Under the guidelines of the Homeland Security we have too many volunteers and that is a security risk. They are talking of having about 20 or so people that can participate. Therefore, we reorganized and will not necessarily be going in as individual groups. One thing we are discussing is that we can rotate volunteers on and off of the list much in the manner that other AA service positions rotate. If we want to have the jail meeting, we are going to have to go by their rules. Our next district meeting will be June 17th at 7:30pm and the next Round Robin Speaker Meeting will be June 15th in North Branch. Yours in Service.

LITERATURE-Bob K. - We had 10 at the meeting this morning. I talked to the Literature ordering department to set up an ON-LINE ORDER ACCOUNT. They don't want personal debit or credit card number because there has been some fraudulent charges made on some accounts. I'm not sure what I should do with this. At the Spring Assembly we talked about getting some different totes and I've been looking at round trip totes they are not cheap but we need to take care of what we have and some of them need replacement. They need to be 20X26 inside bottom and 12 to 16" high. We have several people that are looking to see what they can find. There is some AREA ACTION BOOKLETS on the tables please take some back to your district. Before the price increase in July 2009 there was a spike in literature orders there was 1 order that was 2-3 years of inventory for them. Dist 5- Well stocked with literature Dist 7- Selling a lot of literature. Dist 8- Bringing their display to district meetings and workshops Dist 13-Stocking the St Cloud Alano and are having a pamphlet both at the fair. Dist 12- Buying and selling literature. Dist 18- Ordering literature when groups ask. Thanks to those that ordered literature to be delivered today. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

DISTRICT 8- Randy A. - We had our last district meeting on May 4th which was our Delegate's Report and was hosted by the Aurora Big Book Group. There were 13 groups represented and 35 in attendance. Our Area Delegate did an excellent job on his presentation on the agenda items to the District and the General Service Conference. Under old business, under the PI/CPC committee, we discussed the need for a new list of people to man the district phone line for a month or two. Under new business, our Alternate DCM Sally L. has turned in her resignation and would not be able to fulfill the remainder of her term. The district decided to have an election at our next district meeting in June to fill the vacancy and to bring the information back to their home groups to see if anyone was interested. Some members from District 14 participated in our district meeting and are looking to restart their district and get organized. This past month, I had the honor and pleasure to research information for possible area 35 workshop host sites in District 8 and will be giving the information to our Alternate Delegate. At the present time, we are limited in our selections in our area but were given excellent quotes and information on the facilities that were available. And finally, I was able to visit the Tower Basic AA Group, the Palo Tuesday Night Group, the Cook Sunday Night Big Book Group, and the Virginia Saturday Night Big Book Group this past month. I discussed the importance of general service work at the different levels starting with the home group. I also discussed the importance of "carrying the message of recovery" in our literature and pamphlets and the availability of these at our district meetings. We currently have a literature and archives display at some of our district meetings as needed. One of the duties of the DCM is to visit groups old and new and to inform them of the responsibilities of general service work and to keep the groups GSR's informed of upcoming activities and changes and of conference approved literature.

DISTRICT 12- Jana M. - Greetings from District 12. We have been discussing ways to increase action committees. Maybe assigning GSRs to action committees, or put names in a hat, but do not disturb existing ones. Our corrections chair Stan has some committee members now and they meet the 12th of each month at 6:00 pm at his home. He is also assembling a list of meetings taking place at correctional facilities and contact information on who is running them. Our PI, Patty S., also has some committee members so we are changing from the times when we had committees of one. Cloquet is having a sponsorship workshop on Saturday, June 26th from 1:00 to 4:30pm at the Cloquet Alano Club. We approved a \$50.00 cap for each committee member if they need to pick up any literature without prior approval. Our Alternate DCM, Servando, is still visiting area clubs and updating information. We are looking forward to the delegate report on July 15th at the Duluth Alano Club.

TREATMENT- Robert (Butch) R. - We met in Aitkin with seven Districts represented. We shared what each district is involved with doing and all are taking AA into the Facilities in their districts. Some are trying to make new contacts where we are not involved, a slow process but usually successful. We along with Corrections will be trying to rejuvenate our Temporary Contact Program through the Bridging The Gap process with an Area form and updating current contacts. There will also be a form for the patients to fill out at the Facility they are in. Our Corrections and Treatment Workshop was well attended this spring and will have another in conjunction with the Assembly this fall. Please remember our Responsibility Statement and make yourself available so others may find what we have found through the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous.

DISTRICT 15- Sandy H. - Hello Area 335 and welcome to summer 2010. We have settled down at District 15 after our March 27th Round-up in ST. Anna. We had 170 people attend (Marlene and I attended the Spring Assembly also this day). Right behind this on April 7th we had the Cold Spring Buffet Night where we had 70 people attend. Randy A. the AA speaker for the evening donated a framed photograph on canvas that he had taken; this was sold at a silent auction that evening with all the money going to the Cold Spring Alano Club. Cold Spring Wednesday Night meeting has volunteered to go to the treatment center in Willmar (the old state) Hospital (not sure on the name). They received a call back after 6 weeks and were given 3 dates. One date is in June, one in September, and one in mid October. District 15 has been holding its own financially. Wednesday Night Cold Spring are having a speaker meeting now on every 5th Wednesday of the month. Please come and enjoy this event. We look forward to hosting Jon tomorrow night (June 7th at 7pm) at our district meeting with District 13. All are welcome. Thank you.

DISTRICT 9- Chuck R. - A panel of long-time AA members (30 years and longer) discussed what sobriety was like in Northern Minnesota 30 years ago. It was well attended. Audio recordings were made and will become part of the District 9 archives; a copy was given to the Area Archives. District meetings have been well attended. We are still searching for volunteers to cover a few open chair positions. The treatment chair, Fred H., has been doing an outstanding job. He

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15)

has successfully recruited speakers for the treatment centers in Northern Minnesota. His enthusiasm is catching on. District 9 in conjunction with District 16 will be hosting the Delegate's report and a barbeque/potluck on June 19th from 1-4pm at the Hibbing Alano Club. The Area 35 PI and CPC chairs will also be a part of the district meeting on June 19th.

OLD BUSINESS

SPRING ASSEMBLY FEEDBACK - There were 60 evaluations turned in with 48 people previously attending an Area 35 Assembly and 12 people were new to the Area 35 Assembly. GSRs reported that the most important items from the assembly were the breakout sessions, general sharing on the agenda items, the GSR orientation, fellowshiping, Area Chair reports, the experience as a whole, and the action committee meetings. Suggestions for Improvement: Better time management, a buddy system for new GSRs to help answer questions, committee chairs should be more knowledgeable, start the assembly earlier, clarity on which agenda items we vote on, cut off people who talk too much, and take out the GSR and DCM sharing sessions.

AREA 35 INVENTORY - Motion was made to have an area inventory at the Fall Assembly and that was 2nd.

Discussion: During the previous area inventory, we did not make any changes after the inventory was done. We need to make sure we have action taken from the information we get from the inventory. We also need to have people step-up and help get the process going for the Fall Assembly. A suggestion was to have someone from another Area conduct the inventory. The entire process we went through from the previous inventory is located in the Area Actions Booklet for us to use when setting up this inventory. At the last inventory we had someone from another Area conduct the inventory. One person wanted to make sure that when we do this inventory that we are honest and not worried about hurting other people. We need to look at what is best for Area 35 and Alcoholics Anonymous and how we can make them better. Minority: One was opposed because Area 35 did not follow through on the last inventory so why would we do the process again.

The motion to conduct an Area 35 inventory at the Fall Assembly passed with 24 in favor and 2 opposed.

The Area 35 Chair will be in contact with people to help get be inventory ready for the Fall Assembly.

FINAL FINANCIAL AUDIT - (This is the report submitted by Bill P. and Ted S.)

As requested by the Area we have conducted a review of all financial statements, records and audits available for the past years of 2008 and 2009. In planning and performing our review we also conducted interviews with the immediate past Area Officers we believed could be key contributors to the report. It is our opinion that the financial statement compilation provided by the past Area Chair, Jay A. is as accurate a report as could be constructed. It is our opinion the proposed amends figure and process is prudent and most of all, it is fair. We believe as, most Area AA Members do, in putting principals before personalities; we must forgive, provide an opportunity for amends, and move on. In performing the review we considered various internal controls and procedures which we believe warrant Area 35's attention. These comments and recommendations are intended to improve internal controls or result in improved operating efficiencies. They are being provided to you as items for future discussion and possible implementation. They are as follows: CONDITION- Area 35 Officers are not currently in a position to provide the focus oversight of the financial reporting process we feel is necessary to ensure accuracy. RECOMMENDATION- It is our opinion an Area Finance Committee be formed. The committee could be comprised of four (4) Area AA members. The Area Chairperson, the Treasurer (who would chair the Finance Committee), an Area DCM (appointed by the Area Chairperson), and a semi-permanent Auditor (based on Area Archives model). This semi-permanent Auditor position would be elected by the Area and would be a person who has the financial and accounting skills necessary to conduct proper analysis and review of financial reports. The person in this position would be able to provide a historical reference which may lead to increased efficiencies in the reporting processes. This person would also be familiar and proficient in the use of the financial software provided by the Area. CONDITION- Area 35 does not require dual signatures on checks issued by the Area Treasurer. RECOMMENDATION- We recommend Area 35 should immediately implement a dual signature system for all checks issued. We would recommend the Area Treasurer and the Chairperson be the signatories. CONDITION- The Area does not currently prohibit the use of cash cards and other withdrawal mechanisms issued by banks when new accounts are opened. RECOMMENDATION- In our opinion it would be beneficial for Area 35 investigate the possibility of using a large regional bank as the permanent banking institution for the Area account. This course of action would enable the Area to prohibit the issuance of cash cards, etc. and develop a relationship with the bank, leading to better internal control. Because of the various on-line products and opportunities most banks provide today, we believe it is not necessary for a treasurer to live in a community that has a physical branch of the bank. However, most large regional bank chains do have many outlets throughout Northern Minnesota. This type of bank relationship could possibly provide future opportunities for direct group contributions to the Area account and provide other efficiencies. CONCLUSION- We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to Area 35 and hope some of the observations presented are beneficial. We also feel this situation and process has been a learning and growing opportunity of the entire Area. The love, the commitment to the still suffering alcoholic, and the forgiveness displayed by all, is truly inspiring for us to witness and be a part of. We thank you for your service to this fellowship.

Discussion: How much money were we off and do we accept the \$2020.16 as the amount the past Area 35 Treasurer stole? One member felt that the information presented need to go back to the groups for them to decide if we are going to accept the financial statements and the information presented today. One Area 35 member stated that we need to remember that this was not just one persons fault. We all were not making sure things were being done correctly or having safe guards in place like having double signatures, duplicate voutures, and etc. One thing the same AA member felt we still need to work on is making sure we have a record of the amount of money coming in from groups. An Area Officer wanted to point out that groups have every right to bring their groups concerns to the Area and if they do not like something they can make a motion. Right now the Area 35 asked us to make a financial restitution from the past and that is what we have done and if groups do not like the information they have given they have the right to bring that to the Area. One member felt we need to move on from this and take what we have been given to make changes in what the Area is doing. One member asked if the Area spent \$10,000 more than we should. Another Area member felt that if we do not have concrete proof about an errors or stolen money we can make the changes. Are we over spending or did the money get miss placed? We need to make sure the Area is not over spending their money. The area needs to know what we can spend and what we cannot spend. Part of the past treasurer did not let us know we were below our prudent reserve. The records showed that the area had money to spend so we spent the money. If the records were correct we would have not over spent our funds.

FINANCIAL OVERSITE COMMITTEE - There's been communication amongst the committee members in regards to the area's treasury and how to implement a plan to oversee the finances. As of today, we don't yet have a plan of action on all the tasks and assignments to work out a process yet. This is still in the process of being incorporated, but we will be ready for review by year's end. We have excellent committee members that are willing to work in unity and function to restore confidence in our area treasury. We will be meeting as a committee in person and also continue to email each other to develop a strategy that works for all of us. The committee members are Area 35 Past Delegate Tom A., current Area 35 Chair Mike J., Area 35 Treasurer Sarah K., DCM Randy A., and Jeff L. District 13 Corrections Chair. We will start with developing a cohesive plan; define our main objectives or mission and review area finances on a regular basis. Hopefully this strategy will work for us. Thanks to Area 35 for being patient with us; we will have a much better report and information at the next Area Committee Meeting. Yours in Service, Randy A. Chairman of Financial Oversight Committee.

AREA 35/36 WORKSHOP - We do not have a date from Area 36 for when we would have the Joint Workshop. The chairperson from Area 36 has not gotten back to our Area 35 Chair. The feeling from the Area was to continue to try having the Joint Area 35/36 workshop. Area 35 would like to try and have the workshop in August. Our Area Chair will continue to try and get in contact with Area 36 to set-up a time and place.

NEW BUSINESS

WCRAASC HOSPITALITY SWEET - The cost of the hospitality suite will be roughly around \$200.00 for the weekend. This money would have to come from the Area if we choose to have one at the WCRAASC. There is the possibility that we may get more rooms for free from the hotel if we get a lot of people to stay at the hotel. A motion was made to have a hospitality room at the WCRAASC and this was 2nd. Discussion: The money was made up by the contribution donated to the hospitality suite. Another suggestion was to have a room with bedrooms so that the people running the suite could stay in the room and share the cost. Another person felt we need to make sure someone is in the hospitality suite to collect the money. Rita will be the chair for the committee for the hospitality suite. **The motion to have a hospitality suite at the WCRAASC passed 24 in favor and 0 opposed.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Summer Splash Campout is June 25-27 in Dower Lake, Staples, MN
Weekend with Bill and Lois is July 9-11 at Camp Hiawatha in Deer River, MN
August Area Committee Meeting is August 1st at the Aitkin Alano Club
Wild Rice Round-up is August 6th in Mahnomini, MN
Keep it Simple Weekend is August 13-15 at Camp Chicagami on Pleasant Lake (South of Eveleth)
Fall Assembly, Oct. 2-3, 2010, Seven Clans Casino in Thief River Falls, MN, rooms \$74.95. For reservations call 1-800-881-0712.
St. Cloud Round-up in St. Cloud, MN is October 22, 23, and 24

GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE REPORT -Jon C.

CLOSED WITH THE LORDS PRAYER

Northern Light Article

Service Experience Strength, and Hope from a Past Delegate

My service experience began when after a few months of sobriety I began to realize what a unique and wonderful organization A.A. is, and that there were little jobs in it that somebody had to do, and that I had the time to do them. Coffee maker was the perfect place for me to start. It made me demonstrate commitment, reliability, and consistency, because I was entrusted with the key to the meeting place, and if I didn't show up there would be no meeting and I would have to face a posse of grumpy alcoholics the following week.

I received the benefit of an increased sense of belonging; a feeling of being a member of a group rather than just an attendee of meetings. I made a brief attempt to be a General Service Representative (G.S.R.) before I had worked the 12 Steps and found that I did not yet possess the patience and tolerance and gratitude that is generally required to sit through a District meeting. That soured me on General Service for a while, but I was on the District mailing list, and I began to feel guilty every month when the minutes appeared in my mailbox.

After a year or so I went back to the District meeting and it had changed completely (or perhaps I had changed as a result of working the Steps!). I served as a G.S.R. for a while and learned about the A.A. service structure and found it interesting. I sat on my hands, however, when they asked for volunteers to serve as District officers. Somehow, despite all my best intentions, my hand went up and I became the District secretary. It turned out to be a great job for me, consisting of simple, yet time-consuming repetitive tasks that produced a measurable result in the form of envelopes of minutes. I would deposit them in the mailbox with a certain kind of satisfaction that came from doing a little something to give back to the fellowship of A.A., which by now I knew was saving my life.

When elections rolled around, I was asked to stand for District Committee Member (D.C.M.). I was going to decline the nomination because I was sure I couldn't possibly do the job as well as the present D.C.M. did. I asked a respected A.A. friend about it, and he suggested I put my hat in the ring and let God decide. So I did, and was privileged to serve as D.C.M. for two years. I think it was during that time that I realized more fully what an honor and a privilege it was to be an active participant in A.A. general service, and to experience the wonderful spirit of love and service that exists at the District, Area, and Regional meetings. All of these entities are part of the General Service Conference Structure, which essentially is a communications tool through which information flows back and forth between the A.A. groups and the General Service Board of A.A. It is usually free from politics, and is always in need of A.A. members to serve within it.

Most of us know the rewards that come from working with another alcoholic face-to-face, and the joy we feel when light begins to shine from eyes in which there had been only darkness. But there is a very special reward in general service that comes from helping alcoholics who we will never meet, but for whom we work by helping ensure that A.A. will be there for them when they need it.

Bruce B. Past Delegate, Panel 44

2010 – AREA 35 SCHEDULE

12 Concepts Workshop - District 8
Sept. 11th
Holy Spirit Church Social Hall
306 2nd St. South
Virgina, MN

Zonal Forum - Zone 3
Districts 5, 6, 7, 11, 13, 17, 18
Sept. 18th
Delwood Foundation Room - Cambridge Hospital
701 So. Delwood St.
Cambridge, MN

Area 35 Corrections / Treatment Workshop
7:00pm - Friday, October 1, 2010 - Night before Fall Assembly starts
Seven Clans Casino
20595 Center Street East
Thief River Fall, Mn

Fall Assembly 2010
October 2-3
Seven Clans Casino
Thief River Falls, MN
Rooms \$74.95. For reservations call 1-800-881-0712

Area 35/36 Workshop
Time and place to be announced!

Regional Forum "Additional"
November 12-14, 2010
West Central – Rapid City, South Dakota
Registration: <http://www.aa.org/lang/en/subpage.cfm?page=106>

Area 35 Service Workshop
January 15th and 16th
Coates Plaza Hotel
502 Chestnut Street West
Virgina, MN 55792-2532
(218) 749-1000

August 2010						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2010						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Labor Day	7	8	9	10	11
12 Independence Day	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Upcoming Events in Areas 35 & 36 Note: Area 35 events take precedence!

20th Annual Heartland Round-up
September 10 - 12
Contact: Heartland Round-up
30284 Oakland Dr
Detroit Lakes, MN. 56501
218-847-8233

34 Annual Aurora Big Book Open Speaker Meeting
7:00 pm - September 11th
Holy Rosary Catholic Church Basement
Aurora, MN

65th Annual Duluth Roundup
September 24 -26
Postal Contact: Duluth Roundup Committee, PO Box
16771, Duluth, MN 55816-0771
Website: duluthroundup.org
Email: duluthroundup@gmail.com

12 Concepts Workshop - District 8
Noon to 5:00 p.m. - October 16
Holy Spirit Catholic Church –Social Hall at 306 2nd St. South
Virginia, MN

28th — St. Cloud Roundup
Oct. 22 - 24
St. Cloud Civic Center
10 Fourth Ave. So.

Area 36 - Founder’s Day Weekend
November 26 - 28 - wwwFOUNDERSDAYMN.org
Activities and Accommodations at
Doubletree Park Place Hotel, St. Louis Park, MN
1500 Park Place Blvd, St. Louis Park, MN 55416 • 800.222.8733

Area 36 — Sunlight of the Spirit Weekend
April 15 - 17, 2011
Holiday Inn
Fairmont MN
Registration information: Sunlight of the Spirit Weekend
PO Box 748
Fairmont MN 56031-0748

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 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 is an elected position held during a two -year rotation.

Desirable qualifications: Current or past working knowledge of the printing business. Knowledge of current computer printing programs. 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 two D.C.M.s in Area 35. Currently, these have been picked randomly at the start of the new rotation. They also 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. Seek advice and help from former N.L. Committee members and editors.

N.L. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

The Committee meets every other month before the start of the Area Workshop and at Spring and Fall Assemblies. Additional meetings may be called for if needed between these times.

Twelve Concepts for World Service (Short Form)

- I. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
- II. The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.
- III. To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.”
- IV. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in a reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.
- V. Throughout our structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.
- VI. The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.
- VII. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon traditional and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.
- VIII. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.
- IX. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.
- X. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.
- XI. The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.
- XII. The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

August 1, 2010

<div><div>___ 9:00 A.M. Action Chair Committee Meetings</div><div>___ 10:30 am Area Committee Meeting</div><div>___ Call to Order Open with the Serenity Prayer</div><div>___ Recognize past delegates</div><div>___ Add To Agenda</div><div>___ Approve June Committee Meeting Minutes</div></div> <div><div>OFFICER REPORTS</div><div>___ Delegate- Jon C.</div><div>___ Alternate Delegate – Jim K.</div><div>___ Chair-Michael (Jake) J.</div><div>___ Secretary-Heidi R.</div><div>___ Treasurer-Sarah K.</div></div> <div><div>COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS</div><div>___ TREATMENT- Robert (butch) R.</div><div>___ District 15- Sandy H.</div><div>___ District 9- Chuck R.</div><div>___ PUBLIC INFORMATION-Roger R.</div><div>___ District 7- Mark N.</div><div>___ District 11- Gary H.</div><div>___ GROUP RECORDS-Laurie R.</div><div>___ NORTHERN LIGHTS-Daniel R.</div><div>___ District 2- Rodney P.</div><div>___ District 16- Mary S.</div><div>___ CORRECTIONS-Kelly D.</div><div>___ District 3- Ed A.</div><div>___ District 4- Jim T.</div><div>___ C.P.C-Doug N.</div><div>___ District 13- Gayle S.</div><div>___ District 1- Richard W.</div></div>	<div><div>___ GRAPEVINE-Dee K.</div><div>___ District 18-Mike D.</div><div>___ District 21- Carl B.</div><div>___ WEBMASTER-Ione B.</div><div>___ ARCHIVES-Art A. / Brad I.</div><div>___ District 5-Rita D.</div><div>___ District 6-Kathie G.</div><div>___ LITERATURE-Bob K.</div><div>___ District 8- Randy A.</div><div>___ District 12- Jana M.</div></div> <div><div>___ Lunch</div></div> <div><div>OLD BUSINESS</div><div>___ WRAASC</div><div>___ Area 35 Inventory</div><div>___ Financial Oversight Committee</div><div>___ Area 35/36 Workshop</div></div> <div><div>NEW BUSINESS</div><div>___ Spring Assembly Zone 4</div><div>___ Calendar of Events</div><div>___ TBA</div><div>___ Adjourn</div></div>
--	--

The *Northern Light* is the newsletter for Northern Minnesota’s Area 35 of Alcoholics Anonymous. The articles and opinions expressed herein are strictly the personal opinions of those expressing them. Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Conference Approved Literature quoted herein is reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc. or the A.A. Grapevine. The *Northern Light* is a confidential document. It contains members’ full names and addresses, just as directories do. This usage does not in any way violate our tradition of anonymity to the public communications media.