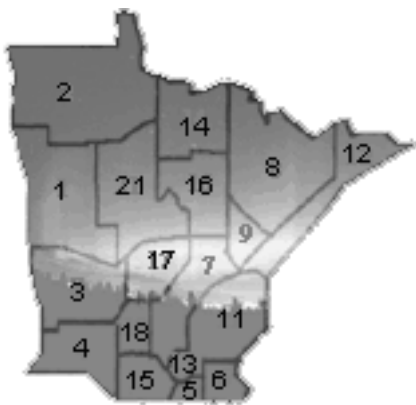


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Deadline for the next
Northern Light is
March 3rd, 2011

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 2011

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

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ART HUR J. A.
archives@area35.org

ARCHIVIST

BRAD I.
archivist@area35.org

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corrections@area35.org

LITERATURE

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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

STEVEN L.
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

LON G.
dcm1@area35.org

DISTRICT 2

RODNEY P.
dcm2@area35.org

DISTRICT 3

JIM S.
dcm3@area35.org

DISTRICT 4

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DISTRICT 5

RITA D.
dcm5@area35.org

DISTRICT 6

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DISTRICT 7

MARK N.
dcm7@area35.org

DISTRICT 8

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DISTRICT 9

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dcm9@area35.org

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dcm11@area35.org

DISTRICT 12

JANA M.
dcm12@area35.org

DISTRICT 13

GAYLE S.
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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

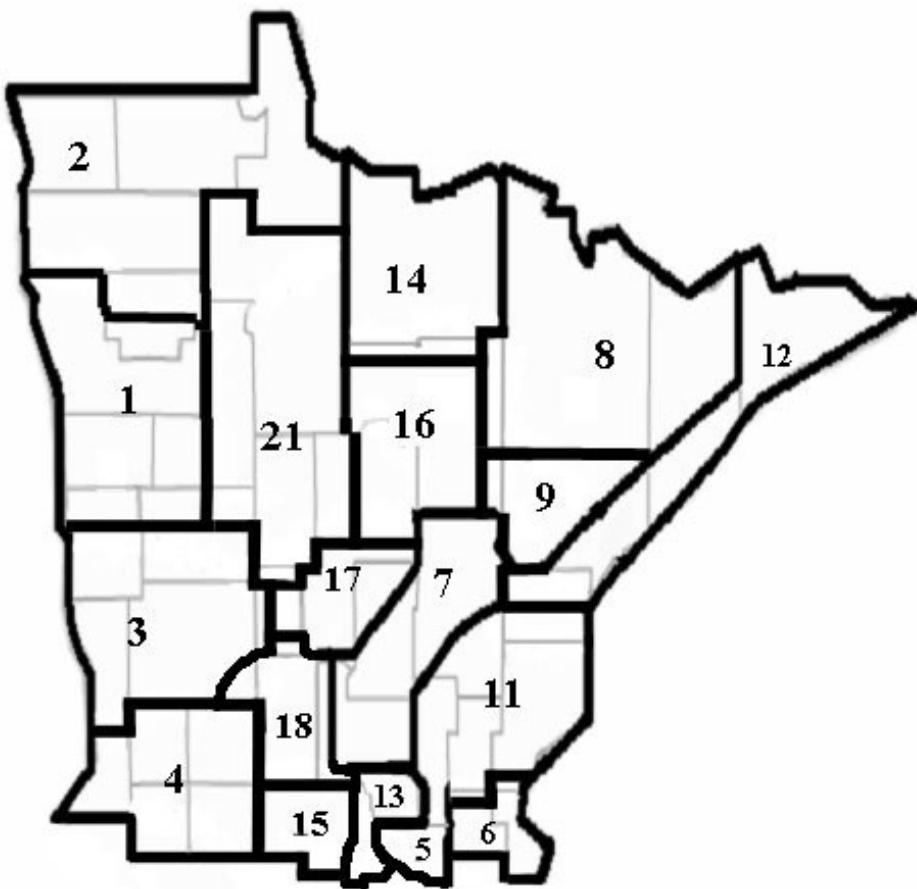
Thank you!

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 of the A.A. directory and helping carry out the triennial membership surveys.
 - Visit groups and districts in the area whenever possible.
 - Work closely with committee members and officers, sharing experience throughout the year. After G.S.R.s and committee members have reported on the Conference, learn from these A.A.s how groups and members have reacted.
 - Assume added responsibility if the area chair and alternate chair are unable to serve. Or, if an area committee is not functioning effectively, the delegate may take an active role in remedying the situation.
 - Keep the alternate delegate fully informed and active, so that the alternate can replace the delegate in an emergency.
 - Late in the second term, work with newly elected delegates to pass along a basic knowledge of Conference proceedings and problems.
- (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, Wade-na
- 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, Foley
- 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
2nd Sunday of even months, 2:00 p.m.
Fertile Community Center
101 S. Mill St., Fertile, MN 56540

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 Dee Dee (320) 491-7230
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 Congregational United Church
415 Juniper Street
Brainerd, MN 56401

District 8
Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m.
General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Call Randy for location “It 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
3rd Thursday 6:30 p.m.
Email DCM Jana at dcm12@area35.org
for rotating location!

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 56301

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 or unknown!

Delegate's Report

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I am looking forward to this year to be the best delegate I can be and participate more in Area 35.

Our first event is our January Area Service Workshop. Our theme for this year is “We are responsible for A.A.’s future-let it begin with us.” Jim has put together an interesting list of discussion topics. I look forward to the District’s presentations and Area discussions. This will be an excellent event to start off the New Year.

We are hosting the West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference on March 4, 5, 6 at the Grandview Lodge in Nisswa. This only happens in Area 35 once every eight years and will be a great opportunity for members in the Area 35. DCM’s reach out to the groups and encourage participation.

When we host an event like this there are many opportunities to serve. We need volunteers to serve in the following areas: greeters, registration, coffee, timer, and hospitality. We need as many members as we can get, so please volunteer.

The General Service Conference is scheduled May 1st-May 7th. Prior to the conference, I will be receiving the final agenda and background material, most likely approximately February 15th. I will make a CD for all officers, chairpersons, DCM’s, and past delegates. I will mail these out as soon as possible. I will make hard copies for anyone who need them and have them ready by the February committee meeting. Remember, in the interest of being prudent; please don’t request a hard copy if unnecessary. The cost of a hard copy is approximately forty dollars each, dependent upon the number of pages. The average number of pages is between 700-750.

As we start the New Year, let all members in service stress the importance of self-support to our Area 35 members. Please encourage all groups to participate and support all of our entities: District, Area, and G.S.O. Last year, 43% of our groups contributed to the G.S.O. We can do better. If there is anything I can do at any level, I am available. We all have to go out to the groups and explain why this support is so necessary.

Last year we conducted an Area 35 inventory at our Fall Assembly. We appointed a committee to review the suggestions and implement changes. If we all implement these changes, our Area will be better and stronger. It is good to have an inventory but more importantly it is better to make the necessary changes. We all can improve.

Thank you so much for this opportunity and privilege to serve. I will try to do better as your delegate. I will be more available to assist in any way in order to carry the message at workshops, roundups, and district meetings.

Thank you and God Bless,
Jon C.

Alternate Delegate's Report

Hello and Happy New Year,

I hope that the holiday season and start of a new year has helped us all to see what a blessed life we get to live in Alcoholics Anonymous. I have had the opportunity the past couple of months to be a part of the West Central Additional Forum, attend the December committee meeting, and prepare for our upcoming Area 35 Service Workshop.

I was able to attend the West Central Additional Forum in Rapid City, SD November 12th through the 14th. It was an educational trip and I had the chance to share great fellowship with Jerry, Jon, and Butch. I thank you for allowing me to attend the event. A full report dealing the event was handed out at the December committee meeting and you can also get a copy from me if you would like.

The December committee meeting provided new opportunities for me as both Mike and Jon were gone due to health and personal reasons. Chairing the event was a great opportunity for growth and I thank all those who helped me through the process.

This weekend we will host our 35th Annual Area 35 Service workshop in Virginia on January 15th and 16th, 2011. I hope the event turns out to be a great one. I believe that everything is set and we are ready to go. I will be providing a report on the event at the February committee meeting for anyone unable to attend. Thanks to all the districts who have volunteered to present and who have assisted with the planning.

Thanks again for this continued opportunity for growth.

Yours in Service,
Jim K.

Chair's Report

Greetings and happy New Year to all,

Hope this note finds you all well. I have been very busy with home life and my local AA commitments. There has not been too much going on in the area with the holidays and all. I have been reading e-mails from Jon about upcoming issues and it seems that we have some things going on in General Service that people are very passionate about. It is good to be passionate but we must follow the codes in AA of Love and Tolerance. I enjoy reading the minutes I get from the districts and am always interested in what they are doing but also the changes that take place. Many people I talk with get very frustrated about General Service and leave because of personal attacks or feeling we are political. That should never be the case. We in service must take care to be above pettiness but not afraid to show passion for our beliefs. I was always told that if I wanted people to respect my ideas that I should respect theirs. We are all here only by God's grace and our purpose is to help those still suffering from this disease. As my buddy Butchie used to say anything else is BS. Lets keep in mind that we are on the same team...AA. I feel blessed to serve and mostly humbled by the fact that I get to. Lets make this a year where we are attractive to AA as a whole and help some drunks. I was able to attend the Cook open and enjoyed the speakers and the fellowship. We are all together in this fellowship.

I look forward to serving this next year and am looking forward to spending time with as many of you as possible.

Yours in Service and love,
Michael (Jake) J.

Secretary's Report

Greeting everyone in Area 35!

I still cannot believe we are in 2011. Well due to the holidays I did not do as much as I would have liked for Area 35. I have typed and emailed everyone the minutes from the December Committee Meeting. If you did not get a copy of the minutes by email and would like to, please let me know and I will add you to my distribution list. Also, if you do not use email and still would like to get the minutes, give me your name and address and I will send them through the mail. When you are looking through the December Committee Meeting minutes let me know if you find any errors I need to correct. The Spring Assembly flyer has been created and is available on the Area 35 website. I was informed that the hotel rooms, for the Spring Assembly, at Fortune Bay Resort are blocked under "Northern MN Area 35 Assembly" and not "Northern MN Area 35 Workshop." I made the correction and have sent a new flyer to the Webmaster and Northern Light Editor. Over the past month, I sent out another letter to the new groups explaining the mistakes I made on their previous letter. I look forward to this weekend at the January Winter Workshop. I am excited to see how the new format works!

Yours in Service,
Heidi R.

Treasurer's Report

Greetings Area 35! Recently a DCM requested clarification on some of the Area's expenses on behalf of a group in her district, so I did a detailed analysis to try and answer her questions. Since she had questions, I thought others may as well, and that it might be useful to pass along the information I compiled for her. The question pertained to the following expense categories: printing & other expenses. So now for the explanation/breakdown. First, let me say that this is a rough summary of costs for printing items and if you want an exact explanation, please contact me with any specific item you are wondering about and I can answer that, or you can contact the appropriate area chair and ask them and they'll gladly answer that question for you.

Our Area's year-to-date printing expenses total \$2,935.93. Printing costs are incurred by the delegate for printing up the background information for the agenda items our area discusses every year. These usually total over a thousand dollars. In 2010 our delegate tried to cut those costs by distributing CDs instead and printing information only for those who requested it because they have no computer or something. The secretary prints flyers for all assemblies in the number of 500 or more a year as well as around 200 GSR packets distributed at Zonal forums and Area Assemblies. These packets contain relevant and important information for those new to service. All the action committee chairs also print flyers if they have a workshop. The treasurer prints 100-150 copies of several sets of financial reports (each consisting of multiple pages) for every area assembly and committee meeting, and very few go to waste. The archivist prints archival material to store for future generations. The group records chair prints the Northern light to inform the area groups about what is going on in area 35. This is printed and distributed to registered GSRs and a packet is given to DCMs to distribute in their districts in order to ensure the groups of area 35 are fully informed.

As for the expense category "other expenses," those numbers total \$3,651.87 (YTD). As for the breakdown of those expenses, again this is a rough outline. "Other expenses" that all chairs accumulate include things like the WCRAASC registration fee of \$12 and the Winter Workshop (January service conference) registration fee of \$10. The archivist's other expenses include the rent we have to pay to store the archives. The Alternate delegate's other expenses include the cost of bringing in and hosting our annual winter workshop speaker. The delegate's other expenses includes the cost of \$1,800 for attending the general service conference in NY each year where he carries our area's conscience. The Treasurer incurs other expenses for things like: contribution envelopes & the Area's post office box, and the annual fee for the website hosting. The PI chair has other expenses which includes the cost of hosting the state fair AA booth. The Corrections chair has other expenses including the cost of hosting a PI AA booth at a statewide probation officer meeting. The group records chair has other expenses for the mailing costs of the Northern Light.

Finally, as members of Area 35 we are right to question if the Area is prudently using funds. I believe there are several recent actions and changes made by members of the area that can be looked at to help us in assessing this. First, to lessen mailing and printing costs, the area minutes began being printed in the Northern light instead of being printed and mailed as a separate mailing. Also, the printing of the agenda items for each DCM and Area Chair has in the past cost the area over 1,000. But this last year our delegate, who was trying to be prudent with the groups' money, made the suggestion that he would only print hard (paper) copies of the background information for the districts and area chairs who requested a paper copy. Thus, he saved the area quite a bit of money, I would estimate over \$800. Another way the area chairs attempt to be prudent is by sharing rides and rooms when traveling to events. Finally, one of the longest running methods to ensure that we are being prudent with the group's funds is by creating a budget. Each year the area presents a budget of expenses they expect to incur based on service they hope to provide the area. This is reviewed by the treasurer and area chair and then that budget will be printed in the Feb. Edition of the Northern light for groups and members to review. All groups are encouraged to get that Northern Light article and review the proposed expenses for the area. Then, after discussing any questions or concerns, they should send a GSR or representative to the area spring assembly where all members of Area 35 have the opportunity discuss and question the details of the budget before it is approved.

Thanks for your questions and for allowing me to be of service.
Sarah K.

Following Paragraph Precedes Budget Proposal Graphs

Greetings members of Area 35. Here is what the area officers and chairs have proposed they will spend in the process of providing services to Area 35 for the year of 2011. Please discuss the budget with your groups and bring any questions to the Spring Assembly, where the budget will be discussed and approval will be sought. You are also encouraged to contact any member of the area committee to ask for clarification on their expenses prior to the Spring Assembly if need be. Their emails and phone numbers can be found in the Northern Light, or the Area Website. Thank you for your participation in this important process!

Treasurer's Report continued on following pages

Northern MN Area 35 Assembly 2011 Proposed Statement of Financial Responsibility

Delegate -- Jon C													
	Svc. Wrkshp.	Feb. Mtg.	Reg. Conf.	Spring Assy.	June Mtg.	Aug. Mtg.	35/36 Wrkshp	Fall Assy.	Dec. Mtg.	Zonal Forums	GSC	Reg. Forum	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	30.00	5.00	125.00	45.00	5.00	5.00	10.00	60.00	5.00	20.00		125.00	\$ 435.00
Travel		15.00	30.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	25.00	30.00	15.00	50.00	1,300.00	75.00	\$ 1,585.00
Lodging			200.00					75.00				150.00	\$ 425.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies	10.00	10.00	10.00	40.00	10.00	10.00		10.00	10.00	20.00		10.00	\$ 140.00
Printing		800.00								40.00	500.00		\$ 1,340.00
Postage		100.00											\$ 100.00
Other	10.00	50.00	50.00	20.00	10.00	10.00		10.00	10.00	20.00	600.00	10.00	\$ 800.00
Totals:	50.00	980.00	415.00	120.00	40.00	40.00	35.00	185.00	40.00	150.00	2,400.00	370.00	4,825.00

Alternate Delegate -- Jim K													
	Svc. WrkShp.	Feb. Mtg.	Reg. Conf.	Spring Assy.	June Mtg.	Aug. Mtg.	35/36 Wrkshp	Fall Assy.	Dec. Mtg.	Zonal Forum	Zonal Forum	Reg. Forum	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	80.00	5.00	60.00	60.00	5.00	5.00	10.00	60.00	5.00	20.00	20.00	80.00	\$ 410.00
Travel	80.00	5.00	30.00	80.00	5.00	5.00	20.00	80.00	5.00	20.00	20.00	80.00	\$ 440.00
Lodging	180.00			90.00				90.00				90.00	\$ 450.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies	20.00						5.00						\$ 25.00
Printing		20.00								10.00	10.00		\$ 40.00
Postage													\$ -
Other	10.00		12.00										\$ 22.00
Totals:	370.00	30.00	102.00	230.00	10.00	10.00	35.00	230.00	10.00	50.00	50.00	250.00	\$ 1,387.00

Chairperson: Michael (Jake) J													
	Svc. WrkShp.	Feb. Mtg.	Reg. Conf.	Spring Assy.	June Mtg.	Aug. Mtg.	35/36 Wrkshp	Fall Assy.	Dec. Mtg.	Zonal Forum	Zonal Forum	Reg. Forum	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	60.00	5.50	75.00	60.00	5.50	5.50	25.00	60.00	5.50	20.00	20.00	75.00	\$ 417.00
Travel	30.00	20.00	40.00	30.00	20.00	20.00	35.00	40.00	20.00	30.00	30.00	50.00	\$ 365.00
Lodging			150.00	80.00				150.00				150.00	\$ 530.00
Phone													
Supplies		10.00		10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00				\$ 70.00
Printing	10.00	15.00		75.00	15.00	15.00	10.00	75.00	15.00	40.00	40.00		\$ 310.00
Postage													\$ -
Other	10.00		12.00										\$ 22.00
Totals:	110.00	50.50	277.00	255.00	50.50	50.50	80.00	335.00	50.50	90.00	90.00	275.00	\$ 1,714.00

Secretary -- Heidi R													
	Svc. WrkShp.	Feb. Mtg.	Reg. Conf.	Spring Assy.	June Mtg.	Aug. Mtg.	Action Bklt	Fall Assy.	Dec. Mtg.	Joint Wkshp	Zonal Forums	Reg. Forum	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	60.00	5.00	100.00	60.00	5.00	5.00		60.00	5.00	10.00	20.00	80.00	\$ 410.00
Travel	35.00	15.00	40.00	40.00	15.00	15.00		40.00	15.00	20.00	60.00	60.00	\$ 355.00
Lodging	100.00		250.00	100.00				100.00				150.00	\$ 700.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies													\$ -
Printing	15.00	5.00		45.00	5.00	5.00	200.00	45.00	5.00	15.00	40.00		\$ 380.00
Postage		9.00						9.00					\$ 18.00
Other	10.00		12.00										\$ 22.00
Totals:	220.00	34.00	402.00	245.00	25.00	25.00	200.00	254.00	25.00	45.00	120.00	290.00	\$ 1,885.00

Corrections -- Kelly D													
	Svc. WrkShp.	Feb. Mtg.	Reg. Conf.	Spring Assy.	June Mtg.	Aug. Mtg.	35/36 Wrkshp	Fall Assy.	Dec. Mtg.	Workshop	Workshop	Reg. Forum	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	30.00	5.00	30.00	30.00	5.00	5.00		30.00	5.00			60.00	\$ 200.00
Travel	55.00	15.00	30.00	55.00	15.00	15.00	30.00	40.00	15.00	100.00	100.00	88.00	\$ 558.00
Lodging	80.00		108.00	80.00				90.00				90.00	\$ 448.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies										100.00	100.00		\$ 200.00
Printing													\$ -
Postage													\$ -
Other	10.00		12.00										\$ 22.00
Totals:	175.00	20.00	180.00	165.00	20.00	20.00	30.00	160.00	20.00	200.00	200.00	238.00	\$ 1,428.00

Group Records Secretary -- Laurie R													
	Svc. WrkShp.	Feb. Mtg.	Reg. Conf.	Spring Assy.	June Mtg.	Aug. Mtg.	35/36 Wrkshp	Fall Assy.	Dec. Mtg.	Other	Other	Reg. Forum	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	30.00	5.00	50.00	50.00	5.00	5.00	10.00	45.00	5.00				\$ 205.00
Travel	45.00	15.00	40.00	50.00	15.00	15.00	10.00	50.00	15.00				\$ 255.00
Lodging	80.00		160.00	80.00				80.00					\$ 400.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies	125.00				30.00			30.00					\$ 185.00
Printing		80.00						25.00					\$ 105.00
Postage		5.00		120.00	5.00			5.00					\$ 135.00
Other	10.00		12.00										\$ 22.00
Totals:	290.00	105.00	262.00	300.00	55.00	20.00	20.00	235.00	20.00	-	-	-	\$ 1,307.00

Webmaster -- Steve L													
	Svc. WrkShp.	Feb. Mtg.	Reg. Conf.	Spring Assy.	June Mtg.	Aug. Mtg.	35/36 Wrkshp	Fall Assy.	Dec. Mtg.	Area 35 Web	Joint Web	Reg. Forum	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	30.00	5.00	65.00	30.00	5.00	5.00	12.00	65.00	5.00			75.00	297.00
Travel	20.00	40.00	100.00	55.00	40.00	40.00	50.00	100.00	40.00			175.00	660.00
Lodging			215.00					210.00				265.00	690.00
Phone													-
Supplies													-
Printing													-
Postage													-
Other	10.00		12.00							97.50	120.00		239.50
Totals:	60.00	45.00	392.00	85.00	45.00	45.00	62.00	375.00	45.00	97.50	120.00	515.00	\$ 1,886.50

Treasurer's Report Continued

	Cooperation with the Professional Community -- Doug N												
	<i>Svc. WrkShp.</i>	<i>Feb. Mtg.</i>	<i>Reg. Conf.</i>	<i>Spring Assy.</i>	<i>June Mtg.</i>	<i>Aug. Mtg.</i>	<i>35/36 Wrkshp</i>	<i>Fall Assy.</i>	<i>Dec. Mtg.</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Reg. Forum</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	30.00	5.00	30.00	30.00	5.00	5.00		60.00	5.00	15.00	15.00	60.00	\$ 260.00
Travel	75.00	10.00	50.00	90.00	10.00	10.00	60.00	120.00	10.00	40.00	40.00	120.00	\$ 635.00
Lodging	150.00		240.00	180.00				240.00				320.00	\$ 1,130.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies													\$ -
Printing													\$ -
Postage													\$ -
Other	10.00		12.00								150.00		\$ 172.00
Totals:	265.00	15.00	332.00	300.00	15.00	15.00	60.00	420.00	15.00	55.00	205.00	500.00	\$ 2,197.00
	Archivist -- Brad I												
	<i>Svc. WrkShp.</i>	<i>Feb. Mtg.</i>	<i>Reg. Conf.</i>	<i>Spring Assy.</i>	<i>June Mtg.</i>	<i>Aug. Mtg.</i>	<i>35/36 Wrkshp</i>	<i>Fall Assy.</i>	<i>Dec. Mtg.</i>	<i>Function # 1</i>	<i>Function # 2</i>	<i>Reg. Forum</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	32.00	5.50	40.00	32.00	5.50	5.50		32.00	5.50			50.00	\$ 208.00
Travel	60.00	27.00	18.00	60.00	24.75	27.00	15.00	60.00	24.75			130.00	\$ 446.50
Lodging	86.00		150.00	90.00				90.00				120.00	\$ 536.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies													\$ -
Printing			50.00	50.00									\$ 100.00
Postage													\$ -
Other	10.00	200.00	12.00		200.00	200.00		200.00	200.00				\$ 1,022.00
Totals:	188.00	232.50	270.00	232.00	230.25	232.50	15.00	382.00	230.25	-	-	300.00	\$ 2,312.50
	Grapevine -- Dee K												
	<i>Svc. WrkShp.</i>	<i>Feb. Mtg.</i>	<i>Reg. Conf.</i>	<i>Spring Assy.</i>	<i>June Mtg.</i>	<i>Aug. Mtg.</i>	<i>35/36 Wrkshp</i>	<i>Fall Assy.</i>	<i>Dec. Mtg.</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Reg. Forum</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	10.00	5.50	60.00	35.00	5.50	5.50	10.00	60.00	5.50			75.00	\$ 272.00
Travel	45.00	20.00	70.00	45.00	20.00	20.00	25.00	60.00	20.00			100.00	\$ 425.00
Lodging	175.00		150.00	170.00				150.00				150.00	\$ 795.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies			500.00										\$ 500.00
Printing													\$ -
Postage											40.00		\$ 40.00
Other	10.00		12.00										\$ 22.00
Totals:	240.00	25.50	792.00	250.00	25.50	25.50	35.00	270.00	25.50	-	40.00	325.00	\$ 2,054.00
	Northern Light -- Dan R												
	<i>Svc. WrkShp.</i>	<i>Feb. Mtg.</i>	<i>Reg. Conf.</i>	<i>Spring Assy.</i>	<i>June Mtg.</i>	<i>Aug. Mtg.</i>	<i>35/36 Wrkshp</i>	<i>Fall Assy.</i>	<i>Dec. Mtg.</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Reg. Forum</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	40.00	5.00	50.00	50.00	5.00	5.00	15.00	50.00	5.00			50.00	\$ 275.00
Travel	15.00		80.00	20.00			40.00	50.00				80.00	\$ 285.00
Lodging	140.00		220.00	100.00				200.00				220.00	\$ 880.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies													\$ -
Printing	400.00			400.00	400.00	400.00		400.00	400.00				\$ 2,400.00
Postage													\$ -
Other	10.00												\$ 10.00
Totals:	605.00	5.00	350.00	570.00	405.00	405.00	55.00	700.00	405.00	-	-	350.00	\$ 3,850.00
	Treatment -- Robert R												
	<i>Svc. WrkShp.</i>	<i>Feb. Mtg.</i>	<i>Reg. Conf.</i>	<i>Spring Assy.</i>	<i>June Mtg.</i>	<i>Aug. Mtg.</i>	<i>35/36 Wrkshp</i>	<i>Fall Assy.</i>	<i>Dec. Mtg.</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Reg. Forum</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	24.00	5.00	84.00	36.00	5.00	5.00	15.00	84.00	5.00			84.00	\$ 347.00
Travel		15.00	36.00	20.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	36.00	15.00			50.00	\$ 217.00
Lodging			160.00					160.00				160.00	\$ 480.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies													\$ -
Printing													\$ -
Postage													\$ -
Other	10.00		12.00							75.00	75.00		\$ 172.00
Totals:	34.00	20.00	292.00	56.00	20.00	20.00	30.00	280.00	20.00	75.00	75.00	294.00	\$ 1,216.00
	Public Information -- Roger R												
	<i>Svc. WrkShp.</i>	<i>Feb. Mtg.</i>	<i>Reg. Conf.</i>	<i>Spring Assy.</i>	<i>June Mtg.</i>	<i>Aug. Mtg.</i>	<i>35/36 Wrkshp</i>	<i>Fall Assy.</i>	<i>Dec. Mtg.</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Reg. Forum</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	60.00	5.00	90.00	60.00	5.00	5.00		60.00	5.00	25.00	25.00	90.00	\$ 430.00
Travel	35.00	20.00	50.00	50.00	20.00	20.00	15.00	50.00	20.00	35.00	35.00	50.00	\$ 400.00
Lodging	120.00		160.00	75.00				75.00		90.00		160.00	\$ 680.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies													\$ -
Printing													\$ -
Postage													\$ -
Other	20.00	15.00	12.00	15.00	515.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	20.00	50.00	15.00		\$ 707.00
Totals:	235.00	40.00	312.00	200.00	540.00	40.00	30.00	200.00	45.00	200.00	75.00	300.00	\$ 2,217.00
	Treasurer -- Sarah K												
	<i>Svc. WrkShp.</i>	<i>Feb. Mtg.</i>	<i>Reg. Conf.</i>	<i>Spring Assy.</i>	<i>June Mtg.</i>	<i>Aug. Mtg.</i>	<i>35/36 Wrkshp</i>	<i>Fall Assy.</i>	<i>Dec. Mtg.</i>	<i>Zonal Forum</i>	<i>Zonal Forums</i>	<i>Reg. Forum</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	50.00	5.00	50.00	50.00	5.00	5.00	10.00	50.00	5.00	10.00	10.00		\$ 250.00
Travel	45.00	5.00	15.00	45.00	5.00	5.00	25.00	45.00	5.00	15.00	15.00		\$ 225.00
Lodging	160.00			160.00				160.00					\$ 480.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies	250.00			56.00									\$ 306.00
Printing		150.00		160.00	60.00	60.00		160.00	60.00	20.00	20.00		\$ 690.00
Postage		66.00			66.00				66.00				\$ 198.00
Other	10.00		12.00						70.00				\$ 92.00
Totals:	515.00	226.00	77.00	471.00	136.00	70.00	35.00	415.00	206.00	45.00	45.00	-	\$ 2,241.00

Treasurer's Report Continued

	Archives -- Art A												
	<i>Svc. WrkShp.</i>	<i>Feb. Mtg.</i>	<i>Reg. Conf.</i>	<i>Spring Assy.</i>	<i>June Mtg.</i>	<i>Aug. Mtg.</i>	<i>35/36 Wrkshp</i>	<i>Fall Assy.</i>	<i>Dec. Mtg.</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Reg. Forum</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	60.00	5.00	50.00	50.00	5.00	5.00	30.00	50.00	5.00	30.00	30.00	50.00	\$ 370.00
Travel	90.00	60.00	40.00	35.00	60.00	60.00	75.00	100.00	60.00	100.00	100.00	130.00	\$ 910.00
Lodging	150.00	35.00	150.00	160.00	35.00	35.00	70.00	100.00	35.00	70.00	70.00	120.00	\$ 1,100.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies		10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00			10.00	10.00	10.00		\$ 80.00
Printing		20.00	25.00	25.00	10.00	10.00		25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00		\$ 190.00
Postage													\$ -
Other	10.00		12.00										\$ 22.00
Totals:	310.00	130.00	287.00	280.00	120.00	120.00	175.00	275.00	135.00	235.00	235.00	300.00	\$ 2,672.00
	Literature -- Bob K												
	<i>Svc. WrkShp.</i>	<i>Feb. Mtg.</i>	<i>Reg. Conf.</i>	<i>Spring Assy.</i>	<i>June Mtg.</i>	<i>Aug. Mtg.</i>	<i>35/36 Wrkshp</i>	<i>Fall Assy.</i>	<i>Dec. Mtg.</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Workshop</i>	<i>Reg. Forum</i>	<i>Total</i>
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	35.00	5.00	75.00	30.00	5.00	5.00	30.00	40.00	5.00	15.00		80.00	\$ 325.00
Travel	80.00	20.00	30.00	40.00	20.00	20.00	40.00	75.00	20.00	40.00		140.00	\$ 525.00
Lodging	80.00		200.00	180.00				150.00				120.00	\$ 730.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies			500.00										\$ 500.00
Printing													\$ -
Postage													\$ -
Other	10.00		12.00					10.00					\$ 32.00
Totals:	205.00	25.00	817.00	250.00	25.00	25.00	70.00	275.00	25.00	55.00	-	340.00	\$ 2,112.00
	Events: Service Workshop, Assembly, Comm. Mtg. Expenses (Room, Coffee) + Ad Hoc Committee												
	<i>Svc. WrkShp.</i>	<i>Feb. Mtg.</i>	<i>Reg. Conf.</i>	<i>Spring Assy.</i>	<i>June Mtg.</i>	<i>Aug. Mtg.</i>	<i>35/36 Wrkshp</i>	<i>Fall Assy.</i>	<i>Dec. Mtg.</i>	<i>Zonal Forum</i>	<i>Zonal Forum</i>		<i>Total</i>
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget		Budget
Meals	80.00												\$ 80.00
Travel	800.00												\$ 800.00
Rent	800.00	50.00		700.00	50.00	50.00	75.00	700.00	50.00	75.00	75.00		\$ 2,625.00
Phone													\$ -
Supplies	200.00			200.00				200.00					\$ 600.00
Printing													\$ -
Postage													\$ -
Other	150.00												\$ 150.00
Totals:	2,030.00	50.00	-	900.00	50.00	50.00	75.00	900.00	50.00	75.00	75.00		\$ 4,255.00
Total Proposed budget													\$ 39,559.00

Corrections Report

Greetings and Happy New Year Area 35!

With the start of this new year we all know in Area 35 how busy we will be with all the scheduled service events coming up early on. The January Workshop is always a great event that starts us out in the new year with a host of information and education on how we can better serve. I look forward to attending this event with the new format change that Jim our Alternate Delegate has put into place and discussing the recent area inventory that we did. Thanks Jim for all your hard work on this! Next we receive and move on to the Agenda Items at the February 20th Committee Meeting in Aitkin, we attend the WCRAASC March 4-6th, which is held this year in Northern Minnesota at the Grand View Lodge in Nisswa (which by the way only comes around every 8 years) and then on to our Spring Assembly April 2-3rd held in Tower at the Fortune Bay Casino. There we vote on those agenda items as a whole so our Area Delegate Jon can carry our voice of Northern Minnesota to the AA Service Conference in New York. I look forward to the next few months working with all you at these service functions to continue to carry AA's message to the alcoholic that still suffers. As I look back on this last year as your Area 35 Corrections Chair I am grateful for the many individuals that have given of their time to be service and have worked to fulfill our commitments to carry the message into our correctional facilities. My hope is that more individuals volunteer in 2011 to do this form of 12 step work. I would like to thank the Area for supporting the costs it took for me to attend all the service functions in 2010 and I look forward to another year of learning and growth with all of you.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.
Kelly D.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

ARCHIVIST

There are several mantras in Alcoholics Anonymous that have developed over the decades. “ If you have the urge to pick up the first drink: go to a meeting; read your big book; call your sponsor; find another alcoholic to work with”. Once upon a time you couldn’t go to a meeting 24/7 there were 2 in the country and they weren’t even AA meetings, they were Oxford group meetings. We didn’t have a big book. We relied on each other and on working with the still suffering alcoholic. And these alcoholics were not cleaned up in a 28 day Rule 25 stay. They were shaky, sick and going into delirium tremens. The first 100 worked with these drunks lovingly and willingly because they knew that this work would keep them sober.

These first 100 are not just names on a page. They were real people with personalities and defects of character. They all have stories, some funny, some poignant, some horribly sad. And these stories are still relevant and useful. I have a suggestion for your next “topic discussion” meeting. Instead of doing gratitude or resentments read a story from “Experience, Strength and Hope” and discuss how the author felt.

Now for our history challenge. The answer to the last challenge, from the “To wives” chapter, now reads “thousands have been released to our care“. In the first edition this was a specific number.

My challenge is for you to find that specific number. This information is readily available on the web. Keep in mind the first edition pagination is different from the 4th edition.

I have a second challenge. Who was the first AA member who broke anonymity on a national level and in what national publication did they break anonymity.

Brad I.

GROUP RECORDS

Hi everyone, I hope things are well with you all. I am getting back into the swing of school and I have a feeling this semester will be a little bit tougher, but I think I am up to the challenge. Not much has changed with group records. I continue to update FNV and entering new groups, as I receive the information. I also continue to pass that information on to Steve our area webmaster so that he can make updates to the website as well. I also continue updating aameetinglocator.org (the joint Area 35/36 meeting website) as well. Remember that if you want your meeting to be on the websites, your group must be registered with GSO and active. To be active, you have to have at least one meeting time, and either a primary contact or GSR. If you have questions about anything related to group records and getting a group or individual registered please ask and I will be happy to answer them for you. Also if your roundup has a flier that they want inserted in the Northern Light the cost is \$75 and I would need six hundred fliers, you could either send them to me or I can get them from you at one of our Area events. That is all for now. See you at the next area event. As always thanks for allow-

ing me to serve, Laurie R.

GRAPEVINE

This is the time to remember how lucky I am to have had the opportunity to serve Area 35 as your Grapevine Chair.

I am looking forward to the January Service Workshop, the February Committee meeting and most of all the opportunity that we all have to volunteer and take part in the West Central Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference. What an opportunity to meet and greet more members of our fellowship from the Region. This is an excellent way to get others involved in service work. Bring someone with to the WCRAASC.

See you at the January Service workshop and February Committee Meeting

Yours in Service

Dee K.

WEBMASTER

It's only been through the grace of God and the fellowship of AA that I haven't found it necessary to take a drink. At the December Area meeting we had 7 in attendance from three districts. District 2,3 and 16 plus the Group Records Secretary Laurie R. and Northern Light editor Dan R. Things we discussed: Troubles with the Map Locator Generator from Google not always getting the locations for an address right. Have to find out how to make a correction for that. Meeting fliers For people to give important information in them. Where (an address) not everybody knows where the community center in town is. also Dates and times. And Proof read before printing or sending by e-mail. Also if you upload an event flier to me please use Word doc or Adobe pdf formats and if sent by mail please make copy on white paper (it scans in best). Placed the new Service Manual on the website. Reiterated the necessity to keep the communication and cooperation between the three positions to keep the information current and correct. Which we are doing a great job of doing. Because Area35 is a dynamic entity not stagnant. And we can only be as good as the information given us and passed between us all. I was in attendance at the Area Workshop in Virginia. I Would like to thank all the people who came back to our little corner of the room Mine along with the Records Secretary Laurie R. and helped correct changes to the Web site and area group records. I know I made changes to about 75 Meetings or more. We were very busy. I had some people again ask about having a better way to add or change group information. I'm looking into a way to do the along with Dan but there is going to be a cost for this in soft ware needed somewhere in the \$350 to \$650 range. It is a topic that I am hoping to be ready to bring up at the Spring

Assembly .
Thanks for allowing me to serve
Steven L.

ARCHIVE CHAIR
No Report Given

LITERATURE

GSO has a “CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS” for Literature that focuses on spirituality that includes stories from atheists and agnostics who are successfully sober in AA. They are looking for stories that reflect the wide range of spiritual experiences of AA members and how members with any belief or non-belief have found a solution to the concept of spirituality and sobriety in AA. Also updating the pamphlet AA and the Armed Services to include recent experiences from AA members in active duty and a part on veterans of the armed services. One more about Self Support this is for the purpose of communicating with the fellow ship about the impact of the Seventh Tradition. Manuscripts should be 500-800 words, double spaced, on a separate sheet of paper include your name, address, telephone number, and email address, as well as the project you are sumitting your story for. The anonymity of all authors will be observed, whether or not your story is selected for publication. Looking forward for the service workshop always leave having a lot of gratitude, February committee meeting to see what the agenda items are and the WCRAASC to listen to the other options.

Your is service

Bob K.

**COOPERATION WITH THE
PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (C.P.C.)**
No Report Given

Northern Light Article

We Are Not Alone

Before I got sober, I always dreamed of traveling and seeing the world. My only problems were; I had no money because I would spend it all on alcohol, and I had no friends who would travel with me. Most of my friends drank like me so they never had money or ambition to go anywhere. When I finally got sober, I started to make my dreams come true. I first started out by backpacking through Europe for my honeymoon. Yes, my husband and I went backpacking through Europe for our honeymoon. We spent two weeks traveling to London, Paris, Rome, Venice, and Frankfurt. Part of the journey involved hitting AA meetings. We hit an AA meeting in London and Rome; which was an experience in itself. When at the London meeting, they started just like any other AA meeting in Minnesota with around 40 people in attendance.

The chairs were lined up in rows and people would randomly speak from the crowd for a few minutes. I never got the chance to speak; however I heard lots of stories that I could relate to. They had greeters and coffee. The only difference was the instant coffee; where you pour the grounds into hot water and they dissolve. When in Rome, we found an English speaking meeting. When you first walked into the room they had a picture of Bill and Bob on the wall. I thought seeing those pictures on the wall, in Rome, and half way around the world was so amazing. This meeting had a speaker who talked for half of the time on her experience, strength, and hope. The rest of the time people would randomly stand up and speak. At each of these meeting I felt as though I was not thousands of miles away from home. I felt so welcomed and it was good to know that I was not alone in this country.

A couple of years later, we went on a Caribbean cruise for 7 days. On this cruise they had meetings for “Friends of Bill W.” For awhile I was avoiding the meeting because I was nervous to go by myself. I do not know why I was so nervous. I had been sober for around 5 years at this time. Finally, I decided enough was enough and I had to face my fears. I went to the meeting and there were 4 to 5 people in attendance. We had a normal meeting in which we talked about a topic and our own story of sobriety. Once the meeting started I realized I had nothing to be nervous about because these people were just like me. There were people from all over the country and they had such great stories. I would have definitely missed out on a great opportunity if had not attended. This June, I decided to go back to Europe for two weeks by myself. I started in Ireland, then Scotland, and finished in Paris. Before I left, I made sure I knew where an AA meeting was in each place I was staying.

The first day I was in Ireland, I went to an AA meeting in Dublin. As I was looking for the place where the AA meeting would be held, I saw some men and women standing outside a building. They were talking, drinking coffee, and smoking. I knew I had found my place. The meeting started with a speaker, who was a woman living in Dublin. Once she was done speaking, AA members around the room would share their experience, strength, and hope. There was no order to who spoke; you just quickly started talking before someone else. I was given the opportunity to speak. I let them know I was from America and this was my first time in Ireland. After the meeting people introduced themselves to me, welcomed me to the country, and talked about their sobriety. One woman I talked with was still struggling with her sobriety, and I could relate to what she was going through. I remember times in my sobriety were I was having the same thoughts and feelings. When I was done in Ireland, I headed to Scotland.

While I was in Edinburgh, Scotland, I went to another AA meeting. The pictures below are from that meeting. The meeting ran the same way as the meeting in Dublin, Ireland. I was also given time to speak at this meeting. When I let people know that I was from another country, they welcomed me and made me feel at home. I was all on my own in a different country and I knew there were people who would help me. When I was in Paris, I found an English speaking meeting at a church called American Church. In order to get to the meeting you had to be let in by the front desk. I was not sure where the meeting was in the church, but then a woman helped me go to the right room. The woman was originally from America but she had moved to Paris some time back. The room was located in the basement of the American Church, which was very beautiful and much cooler than the 90 degrees outside. We had a great meeting that ran like all of the other meetings I attended on my journey. They had a speaker who spoke for half of the hour and then members of the meeting would speak.

The point of this story is that you can go anywhere in this world and not be alone. When I was drinking, I always felt alone and different from everybody else. Since coming into AA, I have never had to worry about people not understanding, relating, or accepting me. The family and friends I have gained is an important part of my life. Today, I am so grateful to be a part of AA and thank God for the people placed in my life.

Heidi R. - ZIMMERMAN, MN



STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

Northern Light

This has been one of the most enjoyable issues to put together as your Area Editor. Not that it did not have it's challenges. Our Area Officer and Chair budget proposals were in a graph form that was next to impossible for me to insert. Luckily Sarah has some skills and offered me a better image format that I could work with. I hope you will be able to see them clearly as it is the best we could do. I suggest you check them out on the Area web site to see them in all there regal color and glory! Remember, you can always check current and back issues of the Northern Light online at area35.org/NL.html — with no last names or addresses of course!

It was a pleasure this time inserting our Area Committee minutes into this issue because of the wonderful job Heidi does and they were of a much smaller size than our Assembly minutes. They tend to be troublesome because the size often freezes up my program and that is not easy to do with my powerhouse PC.

The Area Workshop was very enjoyable to me because I got to just go and enjoy the presentations. It is always good I go because there are always comments, suggestions or just general conversation about the NL that happens at these events. I was hoping there would have been more GSR support so most of the comments could have come from them rather than the Chairs and Officers. Kudos to Jim K. for how streamlined the schedule was. I think we might be able to do it in one day if we started earlier, cut the speaker portion and finish up after the ICE cream. Just a thought! I enjoyed the presentations put on by the Districts, they did quite well with the new format. Conley B. was a class act that for some reason I just liked. I especially liked how he explained the spiritual bond between the Steps, Traditions and Concepts although I would have liked to have heard the longer version.

In this issue you will want to check closely in Brad's report - Archivist, he asked a question last issue that he answers in this one and asks two more. Test your memory/knowledge, or lack of it! Lol I by the way got it right!

There are several Articles that I included in this issue. I used a little editorial liberality to make them fit but they are basically in there entirety. The first, I put right in the page before my report on page 13 by our own Area Secretary Heidi called **We Are Not Alone**, I think you will enjoy it as much as I did! The next is a short but poignant article by Mark N. DCM District 7 called **Service Work do I need this?** Which starts right after our Area minutes on page 19. On page 20 is an article written by Rita D. DCM District 5 called **Recovery, Unity Service** which I think explains quite well how service and inventories have helped shape her sobriety. Starting on page 21 is one persons interpretation of how **Concept IX** needs to be considered more deeply in our decisions in our Area affairs!

An Article I added is a treat for me because it is about one of AA's greatest benefactors in the early years and one of my favorite authors. It was written for the February 1996 AA Grapevine By Igor S., Hartford, Conn. about Emmet Fox! My Sponsor gave me one of his books, **Power Through Constructive Thinking** only after going through the steps and when he thought I was ready for it. If you have a chance make sure to read this Article lower down on page 21 called **Emmet Fox and Alcoholics Anonymous**.

With Love a Service
Daniel 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.

Our Area 35 web site at area35.org has a page with all the registered meetings in the area!
Area 35 and Area 36 have joined together to create meeting locator for the whole state!
Try the state wide meeting locator at **aameetinglocator.org/**

AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETING
December 5, 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: Jerry S. (Panel 56), Tom A. (Panel 50), and Suzie A. (Panel 48),

Additions/Corrections to the Agenda:

Zonal Rotation

Treatment Bridging the Gap

\$150 for booth at a conference in Duluth

Electronic Donations to Area 35

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

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE-Jon C.- Please accept my apology for not attending the December committee meeting. I will be in Florida from 11/29 through 12/6. I look forward to seeing you all at the January workshop. Jim has put together an agenda that should be very informative. Conley B. from the G.S.O. will be very interesting, and I look forward to hearing his story. I want to emphasize the value of the dollar. One dollar in 1945 is worth eight cents today. We must all look within to make sure we are being financially responsible to all of our entities. One dollar in the basket will not cover the necessary expenses for all of our entities to operate effectively. The price of beer today is over three dollars, and how many of us stopped and had one? Please consider trying to contribute more. This program saved our lives and we want to make sure that what was so freely given to us will be available to those in need in the future. Thank you. The Grapevine Board, with the approval of the General Service Board, made a decision to draw down \$300,000 from the reserve fund. Some of these funds are being used to implement the consultant's findings and suggestions. Remember, the consultant was hired in July at \$25,000 to evaluate the Grapevine and its operations. I would like to pass on some changes to the Grapevine and other literature that have or will be implemented during early 2011: 1) we have a new executive editor/publisher; 2) digital version of the magazine will be available; 3) electronic versions of the books will be available; 4) discounted prices; 5) new fulfillment provider; 6) new online catalog/shopping cart; and 7) a new website. These changes have all been made as policy decisions, not subject to conference approval. The best way to help the Grapevine is to subscribe. At this time, we would need 16,700 subscriptions to be self-supporting. Other ways to help are to visit the web page, hold writers' workshops, and have Grapevine meetings. I will keep you all informed of any new developments. At the G.S.O., the committee on literature is looking for stories focused on spirituality for the pamphlet, "A.A. and the Armed Services." Particularly, they are looking for stories that reflect the wide range of spiritual experiences of A.A. members and how members with any belief or non-belief have found a solution to the concept of spirituality in A.A. The committee is also looking for experiences from members in active duty for a section that will focus on veterans of the Armed Services. Submissions should be 500-800 words, double-spaced. I have received a sample "animation" DVD. I will bring this DVD to our January workshop to share with our area. You may order all five young people's videos (DVD-16) for \$13. I want to wish everyone in Area 35 the best during this Holiday Season. If there is anything I can do, please don't hesitate to ask. I am serving each and every member in Area 35. Please take a copy of my report and attachments brought to the meeting by Butch R. This report and attachments are from the additional forum I attended in South Dakota. Thank you for your support.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE- Jim K.- I hope you have all put your summer toys away and are already for another beautiful Minnesota winter. It is a great time of the year to remember how lucky we are to be a part of Alcoholics Anonymous and to display that gratitude through work and self sacrifice for others. I hope you all find much meaning and joy as we continue through this holiday season. I have been blessed to be a part of many great opportunities these past few months in Area 35 including a district inventory, the West Central Additional Forum, and finalizing our upcoming Area 35 Service Workshop. I was able to attend and participate in a District 13 Inventory on November 1, 2010 in St. Cloud. This was the first opportunity I have had to proctor a district inventory and found the experience to be fact finding and fact facing experience. I want to thank District 13 for inviting me to participate in the process with them and hope that the information that came out is useful in the future. The members of that district did a great job of identifying what areas they were making progress in but also, and more importantly, did an excellent job of identifying areas where changes and improvements can be made. Thanks again for allowing me to participate in this process. I was able to attend the West Central Additional Forum in Rapid City, SD November 12th through the 14th. It was a great trip with great fellowship as I traveled out with Jerry, Jon, and Butch. The weekend was very much focused on working with Native Americans and had very good Native American participation. A full detailed report is available either electronically or hard copy for those who wish to have one. Well the much anticipated 35th Annual Area 35 Service workshop it is fast approaching. If you have not yet, please call to reserve your room and set the weekend of January 15th and 16th, 2011 aside. Please announce this workshop at all upcoming meetings. The event will be held at the Coates Plaza Hotel in Virginia, MN with a brand new format. We will also be welcoming Conley B., current Southwest Regional Trustee. He will be presenting on the Concepts as well as answering any questions at our open sharing session. You may reserve a room by calling 218-749-1000 under the block for NMAA. Thanks again for this continued opportunity to be of serve Area 35 and I look forward to seeing you all in January.

CHAIR-Michael (Jake) J.- Hi everyone! Sorry I am not able to make it today. My wife's stepfather passed away and the wake and funeral are on Sunday and Monday in Little Canada outside of St. Paul. It was hard for me to decide where I needed to be and it shouldn't have been. We have very capable people in our Area and none of us should think we are indispensable. I am sure you will be fine without me. I know that I am sober just for times like this. There has not been much happening as far as my job is concerned but life in general has been very busy. Sponsees, family and friends along with work keep me going. We now have an 18 year old living with us and that will be interesting. If you need me for anything please call or e-mail. I will see you at the Area workshop.

SECRETARY- Heidi R.- I have created the flyer for the 2011 Spring Assembly so please take them to your districts and groups. The Spring Assembly information was also sent to GSO and should be added to Box 459. I have to apologize to Area 35 because I did not realize I should be sending the minutes to the West Central Regional Trustee and GSO. I realized my mistake at the Fall Assembly and have started sending them the minutes. Another apology I have to make is in regards to the new group letters I sent out after the Fall Assembly. In the letters I put their home district as District 13. I did give the new groups the correct DCM information; however, the wrong district. I will be sending them new letters with the errors corrected. As a part of my report I thought I could name the new groups that have registered in Area 35. They are: Belgrade AA Group in District 15, Alexandria Young Peoples Group in District 4, Cohasset North 12x12 Group in District 16, Heard it Through the Grapevine in District 13, Hope Group in District 11, Lutsen Wednesday Night Step Study in District 12, Newcomers Group in District 16, Ottertail Group in District 3, Scenic's Sober Exposure in District 16, St. Nick AA Group in District 15, Tuesday Night Sebeka Group in District 3, and Tuesday Nite 12 Step Group in District 16. The Fall Assembly Minutes and Area 35 Inventory are completed so please let me know if you have any questions or find errors in the minutes. I have decided to set a goal for myself and try to have the minutes done a week before the Northern Light deadline. I hope this will help Dan have more time to get the Northern Light ready to be printed. I am asking that all Area 35 Officers, Committee Chairs, and DCMs have their reports to me by December 20th. At the Fall Assembly we went through almost all of the 2008/2009 Area 35 Action Booklets. I currently have 10 copies left and will work on getting some more copies since we still have a year left of this rotation. The minutes have been typed from our last WCRAASC committee meeting held at the Fall Assembly. If you would like the information please see me. Also, if anyone would like an email copy of the Committee Meeting Minutes, Assembly Minutes, and/or Flyers please write you email address down on the paper located on my table. If you are not able to get email and want the minutes, I can mail a copy to you. Just give me your name and address. Thank you for allowing me to be of service to Area 35.

TREASURER- Sarah K.- The three financial reports presented for the Area's review were: Profit and Loss Income statement, Group Contributions Listing, and the Detailed Expenditures and Budgets report. There were also Area and GSO contribution envelopes, self-support packets, and a self-support handout which explains what the Area does with the money provided to all. Finally, there were binders containing scanned copies of contribution checks and cash, bank statements, expense vouchers, and past financial reports available for anyone's review. For period 6: Sept. 29, 2010-Dec. 2, 2010 we received \$4,529.37 in group contributions, bringing our YTD group contributions to \$28,163.82! (Amazing!) A huge thank you to the groups who are contributing! We also received \$163.00 in BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTIONS, which brings our YTD total Birthday Contributions to \$1,143.00. (Again, amazing!) Your gratitude for your sobriety exhibited by your birthday contributions is greatly admired and appreciated! Other income: PTD Special contributions = \$400 from the Heartland Round-up, YTD Special contributions total \$3,350.00. YTD Amends made: \$1,700. PTD anonymous contributions \$2, YTD anonymous contributions total \$1,002. PTD sharing session basket is \$57, YTD \$159.07. YTD 7th Tradition Basket passed at fall assembly AA meeting \$23, PTD \$23. PTD Interest on deposits: \$23.28, YTD 91.62. We had one returned check and fee for -\$34. This brings our total period 6 income to \$5,201.55, and our YTD income to \$38,266.35. Our period 6 expenses totaled \$4,716.82. The expenses were mostly for the area officers and chairs to attend the Fall Assembly. If you are interested in a detailed breakdown of expenses, please contact me and I'll happily oblige! Including the contents and interest in our savings accounts, (\$5 in our savings account and our \$6,000 prudent reserve-which is in a dual signature protected savings account), and we have a total of \$19,365.13 in the Area Accounts. Thank you for allowing me to serve! Please send all contributions for the Area to: PO Box 328, Brainerd, MN 56401. Please send all requests for more information to: treasurer@area35.org.

(Continued on page 16)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS

ARCHIVES-Art A. – (Not present, no report submitted)

ARCHAVIST- Brad I. – Since the Fall Assembly I set up the Archives display at the St. Cloud Round-Up and at Founders Day in St. Louis Park which was a joint display with Area 36. The displays were well received with much interest in the “Your Faith” magazine and the working copy of the Big book manuscript. I had a chance to visit with incoming Area 36 Archives Chair Carla N. and she is interested in doing a joint Area 35/36 Archives workshop in the future. I attended the Regional forum in Rapid City and have a separate report on that event. I presented at the Archives workshop in district 5 at the Elk River Alano. Recent requests for research have been “When did the capitalization of the phrase Program of Recovery get changed and why?” It was between the sixth and seventh printings of the Second edition and I don’t have any record of why the change was made. Recent contributions have been an April 1947 “Hygeia” magazine and a July 1947 “Health” magazine. There is an Archives workshop scheduled for Brainerd on the 16th of December and I will be presenting on the topic “Links in Multiple Chains: How the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous came to Be.” I am available to do history presentations at any function for your group or District. I just have to work you into my schedule.

DISTRICT 5-Rita D. – Greetings everyone from District 5! We meet the 3rd Monday each month at 7:00 in Zimmerman at St. John’s Lutheran Church. We have been busy in our District. We had a workshop November 6th on Archives, Corrections and Treatment there were 13 in attendance. We would like to thank Brad I. for an AWESOME history talk, Art A. for his Archives presentation, Kelly D. for her presentation on Corrections and Skip D. for the Treatment presentation. We appreciate all their hard work. We actually filled our Archives Chair position partly as a result of the workshop...our new Archives Chair is Jack J. Great news on the Corrections front, the men have now started to go into Sherburne County Jail as of December 2nd, and will be going in on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month! This is awesome as our District has been working on getting back in there for about a year and a half! Thanks Skip for all your hard work! We are still in need of a Corrections Chair. As of today we have spent the remainder of our Pink Can Plan money along with some general fund money to purchase a case of Big Books to go into Sherburne Co. Jail. Other members and myself and continue to fill in for our CPC/PI Chair. Our Treatment and Literature Chairs are fulfilling their responsibilities and all is well. At our November District meeting we discussed the Temporary Contact Program that was presented from Butch our Area Treatment Chair. We also discussed the proposal from District 7 regarding meetings listed on the Area Website. Todd, Paul, and I are working on our presentation for the Area Workshop in January. Skip and I are visiting groups again and so far have been out to 12 groups. I keep hoping and praying that we will get more groups involved with the District and that these groups will get GSR's!! We will be doing a District Inventory at our January 17th meeting with Susie A. chairing the meeting. I want to thank all our District members and GSR's for all their hard work, together we get a lot done to Carry the Message to the still suffering Alcoholic! I hope everyone has a very Happy Holiday season!!

DISTRICT 6-Kathie G. – Once again our October District Meeting was held outside under the lights due to being locked out of our regular meeting place. The problem has since been resolved. So instead of meeting minutes Dave was able to put together a newsletter. Thanks Dave for a job well done. Our literature and treatment chairs both resigned due to other obligations. John R. has accepted the treatment chair position and I’m confident that we will be able to full the literature position soon. All other obligations are being fulfilled. Our next district meeting will be December 16th at 7:3pm, Spring Lake Lutheran Church. A Christmas potluck is planned and everyone is welcome.

LITERATURE-Bob K. – It seemed like we all had a story about ordering literature the best thing to do is if you call an order and can’t understand the person that is helping you ask for someone else that you can understand. We had 6 districts represented District 13 is restocking after a Round up and is having a problem with an order that got delivered to the wrong address. District 8 they are making their own beginners packets of literature and had their literature display at a workshop. District 12 placed a large order and is making their own beginners packets. Dist 1 has a new literature chair. District 5 sold 1 big book and the person that bought it gave them \$24.00 and said pass 2 on (what a good idea!!). District 4 made a big order and has a hard time keeping big books on hand and is getting ready for a round up.

DISTRICT 8- Randy A. – It has been very busy month with lots of activity going on. We held our last district meeting on November 10th at ST. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Virginia, MN. There were 22 group’s represented with 33 in attendance including two new visiting groups. The new “Wednesday Back to Basics Group” from Virginia, and the Pine View 24 Hour Group from Little Fork, MN. The Little Fork group requested for inclusion to be a part of District 8 and was added to the agenda and after lengthy floor discussion a motion was made, seconded, and accepted by vast majority to accept the new group for membership into District 8. We also set-up next year’s District 8 host group meeting schedule and filled up the schedule for 2011. There was also a motion on the floor to form an audit committee similar to the Area 35 Financial Oversight Committee for District 8 consisting of the incoming treasurer, outgoing treasurer, and two appointed by the DCM. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken and ended up in a 14-14 tie. The end result was that the motion failed and it was to be brought back to the home groups for discussion at the next district meeting in December. We also had sign-up sheet for discussion at the next district meeting in December. We also had a sign-up sheet for presenters for the Area workshop in January and had 7 people interested in doing the topic. In closing, we held our District 8 Concepts Workshop on October 16th and had 24 in attendance. The presentations were done by past delegates, our current delegate, our Area 35 chair, and a past Area 35 committee chair. We had two visitors from Fergus Falls. One from International Falls, one from Brainerd, and two from Superior, WI in attendance as well as all of our district committee chairs. A special thanks to the district archives and literature committee’s for setting up their displays and for those who participated and brought goodies. It was well received and the presentations and participation were excellent and a good time was had by all. We look forward to the next events hosted by our district, notably the Area 35 Workshop and the Area 35 Assembly. We will also be having our annual district workshop for February 26th, 2011 at the Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Virginia, MN from 12:00pm to 5:00pm and will also host an open speaker meeting during the evening from 7-9pm.

DISTRICT 12- Jana M. – Our PI and CPC Chairs have been busy working with and getting literature to our: local colleges, bail bondsmen, Government Service Center, WIC, Family Visitation Centers, free clinics, and high schools. Due to work and family issues our current Treatment Chair was no longer able to continue. At our last district meeting our Alternate DCM Sevando decided to step down from his position and take up the Treatment Chair position instead. We approved a huge literature order to help supply our active PI and CPC chair as well as Big Books to the Douglas County Jail Meeting and pamphlets to NERC.

TREATMENT- Robert (Butch) R. – We met as a Committee and shared on what we have been doing in our Districts. All have been busy fulfilling their commitments and trying to form relationships in other facilities where we may be invited. I see a lot of dedication and hard work being done because lately Speakers are sometimes hard to get to commit. We also discussed the Bridging The Gap Program and are making some progress. Forms have been E-Mailed to all DCM's for their reproduction and if you haven't received one please contact me. Once again we are planning a Workshop in conjunction with the Spring Assembly. Corrections and Treatment feels this is the most prudent as we usually have a good turnout. Looking forward to the Workshop which is in my backyard will see you there.

DISTRICT 9- Chuck R. – District 9, through the PI Chair, has met with the Parole Officers office. The signing of white slips was discussed and was the meaning of anonymity. At the district meeting it was decided that GSRs would go back to their groups to determine, by group, how white slip signatures would be handled. Additionally, the district hosted another Long-Timers Panel (each speaker had at least 30 years of sobriety). Area Archivist, Brad I., not only recoded the session but spoke about the beginnings of AA within the district. The district GSRs have been discussing with their groups: how the groups feel about non-registered groups being included on the Area Meeting website. As of this writing there is no formal recommendation. May you all have a sober and happy Christmas and New Year.

DISTRICT 15- Sandy H. – Our district meeting attendance has gone up the last two months and for this I am grateful. Right after the Fall Assembly our Literature Chair quit so we now have no chairs filled. We updated our meeting schedules and I have been to most of the City Halls in District 15 with updated lists. Different groups from District 15 have been going to the St. Cloud VA, Recovery Plus, and Willmar CARE facility and putting on some meetings. I got one contact person for District 15 for the Area Temporary Contact Treatment Program. Lake Henry is having a Christmas Party at the Hilltop Restaurant in Paynesville January 8, 2011 5:30pm social 6:00pm supper cards. Everyone is welcome. We are in the process of getting things ready for our Round-up March 26, 2011 at the Landing Supper Club in St. Anna, MN. Rita from District 5 is the AA speaker. Come one come all. We are meeting an hour earlier tomorrow for our District Meeting in hopes to get some help with our presentation at the January Workshop. All of us at District 15 wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Hope to see you all at the January Workshop.

PUBLIC INFORMATION-Roger R –We had 9 people in attendance at our PI/CPC Committee Meeting this morning with Districts 13, 8, 3, 4 and 11 represented. District 8 reports that its beginners meeting is going well with good support from local treatment centers, meeting directories have been updated, and phone assistance line is doing well. District 13 evaluated the districts PI Chair in a recent district inventory. Tim received a 3 on a scale of 1 to 3. The district directory is being updated and the beginner’s meeting and phone line are doing well. The local high schools have been provided with books. CPC and PI activities for St. Cloud State University are in a planning stage for next year. District 3 is working on a PI/CPC luncheon and also its phone line is doing well. District 4 is working on a district website and phone line with the phone line using the internet that cost only \$8.00 per month. In District 11 all is well and they are currently getting a lot of addicts attending AA meetings. In District 12 they have gotten literature to the colleges, high school, Light House, parole office, and Government Service Center. They also have a speaker to give a presentation at Juvenile Convention. I enjoyed presenting at the PI breakfast in Grand Rapids, MN on October 29th and would like to thank District 16 for that opportunity. Now is a great time for districts to begin planning PI events for next year. Thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve Area 35.

DISTRICT 7- Mark N. (Report given by Neal- Alternate DCM)Our district meeting is held on the 3rd Thursday of the month in Brainerd at 7pm with the loca-

(Continued from page 16)

tion changing in January. We have this information posted on the website. At the last meeting on November 18th we had good participation and turn out. All district chairs are filled and active to some degree or another. The hot topic for the meeting was the meeting locator. We are currently revamping the district phone line and meeting lists. On December 16th we are having an archives workshop in Brainerd starting at 8pm with a potluck. Brad, Area Archivist, will be presenting. The flyer is posted on the website. Happy Holidays to all.

DISTRICT 11- Gary H. – Rush City Prison stopped AA meetings in October be we will be starting again this Wednesday. All other jail meetings are doing fine.

GROUP RECORDS-Laurie R. – Hi everyone, I have learned that by the time I get everything figured out, it will be time to rotate. I continue to update group information as well as enter new group information into FNV (the GSO database). I also pass that information on to Steve L. our area webmaster so that he can update the meeting listing on the website. I also continue updating aameetinglocator.org (the joint Area 35/36 meeting website). I want to reiterate that to be on both websites - groups need to be registered with GSO and be active. To be considered active a group needs to have either a primary contact or GSR and they need to have at least one meeting time. There are forms on the back table for making group changes, district position changes and new group forms as well. I also continue to respond to emails that people send me and that I receive through aameetinglocator.org. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

NORTHERN LIGHT-Daniel R. - In this issue of the NL I made an effort to get the newsletter out as quickly as possible. I was hopeful that it could be mailed out in plenty of time so that it would arrive in the mail before this meeting. I was able to get it to the printer 3 days earlier than I had planned for even though some reports came in late. I sent the online version out on Nov. 15th and after correcting a couple of errors that JoAnne and Steve L. found got the print version to the Cold Spring Record on Nov. 17th. We have discussed moving up the deadline and this has been done. My only concern was if this would be a problem for our Secretary and Treasurer to do this as they have a much more task intensive report to compile, especially, after an Area 35 Assembly or Workshop. I don't see any reason that most can't get their reports within a month of a previous event. Yes, we all have lives and this is not an avocation but we did sign up for it by accepting to be an Area officer or Chair. Some of you are more hands on and person to person in your approach and that is great but if you ask for help it can get done. Art sends me his report by mail and gets it in on time. I will send this to Heidi by email so she can copy and paste it instead retyping it.

DISTRICT 2- Rodney P. - We held our last district meeting November 14th with only 6 in attendance (I think this was due to the annual chasing of the white tails). The GSR's, which were present, reported meetings are well attended and the solution to our problem is being discussed. According to Art and the Round-up Committee, everything is set for February 18th and 19th at the Seven Clans Casino in Thief River Falls, MN. The poster (Can you spot the Alcoholic) has been so well received at hospitals, law enforcement centers, and schools; we just ordered another 20 posters. In District 2 we are very fortunate to have only one group that is not a registered group, and they are in the process of doing so. So when I brought this back to the district, about our website policy, they had no problem with how it is being handled. Stating they didn't understand why a group would not register if they wanted to be a group of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.

DISTRICT 16- Mary S. – Hello from district 16. We have had a productive fall. On October 29th we held a PI Brunch at the Sawmill Inn in Grand Rapids with approximately 20 in attendance. Roger, the Area PI Chair, came up from St. Cloud and spoke for AA. Janet M. spoke for Al-Anon. We held a District Inventory in November and quite a few groups were represented. Jerry S. was our facilitator. I felt like it was very helpful and many good ideas and thoughts were brought up. Tuesday Night Solutions held an open meeting. My goal as DCM is to attend all the AA meetings in District 16. I have 3 more to attend. We might have all of our committee chairs filled. We are just waiting to hear from a couple people. The two that are open are Grapevine/Literature Chair and Corrections Chair. I also uploaded a flyer on Area 35.org and that went well. Cohasset is having an Open Meeting January 29th at the Community Center. We printed new District Directories, too. The job as DCM has been more rewarding than I would have thought. I can't believe my term is half way over. Thank you for the privilege to serve in this way.

CORRECTIONS- Kelly D. – We met this morning as a group in our Corrections Action Committee Meeting and there were 8 in attendance. We had representation from Districts 8, 3, 13, 4, 9, 5 and 18. Jerry from District 8 and John from District 9 continue to work on getting volunteers to go into Mesabi Academy Youth Facility. John shared that he is having difficulty getting individuals willing. If you are from that area and are looking for ways to help carry the message please contact one of them, they could really use your help! It is really important that we carry AA's message to our youth. Jim from District 3 says they are fulfilling their commitments in their district. Jeff from District 13 said that there is a group that wants to hold a meeting in the Sterns County Jail on Friday mornings. He will get more information on this to pass on. They are also holding a Treatment and Correction Workshop on December 8th for volunteers. Dee Dee from District 4 reported that they are currently looking for a Corrections Chair but they are fulfilling their commitments in their district. Skip from District 5 reported that they have started meetings again twice a month at the Sherburne County Jail. They need 4 men a night to go in and they have 9 volunteers signed up so far. They are still looking for more volunteers including the women's meeting. I am currently working on my Corrections budget for 2011, I have been diligently working on the programs and directory for the WCRAASC coming up in March and I received 7 more female names that need contacts that are releasing from Shakopee Women's Prison soon. I will be contacting individuals from those districts to get contacts for them. Thanks to everyone that has been willing to be a contact for the many inmates we have already received throughout this last year. I presented at District 5's Corrections, Treatment and Archives Workshop on November 6th and I would like to thank them for inviting me to be a part of it. Again if I can be of help or service in any of your districts please let me know. I would like to wish all of you a happy and safe holiday season. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

DISTRICT 3- Jim S. - We have two positions open, Literature and Corrections. Prior to the last district meeting we were short on our yearly budget and now we have more than enough 7th tradition donations to fulfill all of our obligations for the rest of the year. Our district made and approved a motion to start an annual roundup starting next July 2011. This will be a 2 or 3 day event at the local campsite. Flyers should be available in the next couple months. I was asked by a women's only meeting to distribute an invitation to other women around our district to participate in a private Facebook page. I spoke with the corrections chair at GSO regarding their thoughts on whether this would be a breach of anonymity, be an outside issue, etc. The thoughts from GSO are that it would essentially be a virtual Alano club as thus an outside issue. At our next district meeting the person requesting this invite will be present and we will have a discussion about this as I do not feel it is solely up to me to decide to not distribute the invite. This seems to be a topic that will continue to grow as opposed to fade away so we might as well start to discuss it. We have 5 GSR's preparing a workshop for the annual workshop in January.

DISTRICT 4- Dee Dee B. - Hello from District 4. I am glad the storms are over for now and I was able to make it here today. This is my first Area Committee Meeting as DCM and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve. District meetings are the second Saturday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in various locations throughout District 4. Our next District meeting is December 11th in Elbow Lake and we will be doing a District Inventory with the help of past Delegate Tim C. At our November 13th District meeting we had 18 people attending. Jeff C has agreed to be our PI/CPC Chair and he is working on a website for District 4. Jim T has agreed to be on this committee also. We are very excited about this active participation. Sheryl B has stepped down as Corrections co-chair. We are sorry to see her go. Nominations have been tabled until December to replace Sheryl. On November 23rd Dee Dee and Mike met with a representative from the Alexandria Douglas County Jail and discussed the motion to purchase new books for the jail. Nikki told us to wait until they get moved to the new jail as they will be combining libraries and they will have less room. She will let us know what will be needed for literature. Mike B placed a large literature order with GSO to have pamphlets and books on hand. Literature is available for sale at our District meetings and will be available at the Big Ole Roundup in March. District 4 will present at the Area 35 Service Workshop on "The Role of the DCM: Expectations To and From." Several GSR's present commented how much fun the Service Workshops are. A motion was made to cover the expenses of those volunteers who help Dee Dee with the presentation. We plan to meet in December to start preparing for the presentation and get an outline to Jim K. We have a new AA meeting at the Wheaton Public Library on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. This meeting could use our support. Thank you to everyone for all your help and allowing me to serve.

C.P.C-Doug N. - District 3, Chris, will have three CPC luncheon meetings. The first meeting invitations were sent out 3 weeks before the meeting and nobody showed up. They are going to try giving 3 months advance notice and maybe even an RSVP slip before the next CPC luncheon. District 12 will be working with Minnesota State Juvenile Officers for a conference to be held in January on the 26th, 27th, and 28th. District 12 has a speaker available to give a presentation at the conference as space was available in their agenda. We need more representation from district to attend the committee meetings because it takes too long to talk to district chairs over the phone and coordinate information between districts. DCMs can help by getting people involved in service maybe even the GSRs.

DISTRICT 13- Gayle S. – Hello from District 13, we meet the first Monday of every month at Salem Lutheran Church @ 90 Riverside Dr. St. Cloud @ 7:30pm. We are happy to report we have a new ALT DCM, Steve J... We also have two nominations for district secretary. We would like to thank Alt Delegate Jim K. for assisting us with our district Inventory. We allotted one hour to conduct our inventory, after one hour we voted unanimously to continue, we finished at two hours twenty minutes. What we learned from conducting an inventory will strengthen us as we continue to grow as a district. PI committee is continuing to work with Area Group Records and Area Webmaster to make sure our meetings in both databases stay correct as well as making our open meeting available in the St Cloud Times. PI and Treatment Committees are working together at the Beginners Meeting to determine if the first 6 months is reaching the purpose of helping that newcomer. The Treatment Committee is busy taking in meeting to Children's Home, Our House, Clara's House, Mental Health Center, Effective Living Center, Dextox, VA Medical Center and Passages. CPC Committee presented for soldiers of the MN National Guard on what AA is and what AA isn't. Also CPC delivered AA literature for the Veterans Stand Down at the St. Cloud Armory. Archives are working on an action workbook, condensing 30 years of district meeting minutes into about 30 pages of motions passed and failed. Archive's is also looking for any District 13 group histories. Correction and Treatment Committee is conducting a workshop this Wednesday December 8th in St Cloud, flyers are available...Have a Blessed Christmas

DISTRICT 1- Lon G. - Our last district meeting was held on October 10, 2010 with 9 members attending. I gave my report from the Fall Assembly and I presented the Area Financial Report and discussion was held. We have had some changes in chairs and everyone is setting into their new roles. Group reports were given by those in attendance and our numbers seem to be holding pretty much steady. After a review of expenses for our annual fall event and the somewhat disappointing attendance some discussion was held and changes proposed. We voted to give an event another year and will work on finalizing the change-

(Continued on page 18)

(Continued from page 17)

es in an effort to make it viable for the future and I thank everyone for their dedication to this event. A date will be selected some for our spring 2011 event which we share with Al-Anon. I am very thankful for many members in service throughout District 1 and look forward to helping that number grow.

GRAPEVINE-Dee K. – We had 8 people in attendance at our Grapevine Committee Meeting with representation from Districts 5, 4, 1, 13, 8, and 12. Randy, from District 8, says they are getting Grapevines out to treatment facilities. District 4 has ordered 10 copies of Spiritual Awakenings II. There is a new Grapevine Executive Editor/Publisher and her name is Ami Brophy. She was selected for the position out of 120 candidates. I am grateful for the opportunity to grow and be of service to Area 35 as your Grapevine Chair.

DISTRICT 21- Carl B. – (Not present, report submitted)

Not much has changed from our last update. We held our Gratitude Potluck on November 27th, and we had a great turnout. There were nearly 60 people in attendance, and we had lots of food. We had 15 or 20 people get up and share a little about Gratitude, lots of good things said. Our CPC/PI committee is still working with the Beltrami DWI court, trying to find the best way to show them how AA can help. In addition we continue to maintain our 800 line, we are printing more meeting lists, and our jails have weekly meetings. DISTRICT 18– Mike D. - (Not Present, no report submitted)

WEBMASTER-Steve L. – It's only been through the grace of God and the fellowship of AA that I haven't found it necessary to take a drink. We had 7 in attendance from three districts. District 2, 3 and 16 plus group records secretary and Northern Light editor. Things we discussed: Troubles with the Map Locator Generator from Google not always getting the locations for an address right. Have to find out how to make a correction for that. The meeting fliers for people are to give important information in them. Where (an address) not everybody knows where the community center in town is also dates and times. And Proofread before printing or sending by e-mail. Also if you upload an event flier to me please use Word doc or Adobe PDF formats and if sent by mail please make copy on white paper (it scans in best). I placed the new Service Manual on the website. I reiterated the necessity to keep the communication and cooperation between the three positions to keep the information current and correct. Which we are doing a great job because Area 35 is a dynamic entity not stagnant. And we can only be as good as the information given us and passed between us all.

OLD BUSINESS

WCRAASC-The committee met over lunch today and everything seems to be going well. We are in need of volunteers to help with the registration table (Mary C.), coffee (Butch R.), greeting (Art A.), and the hospitality suite (Rita D.). If you want to get involved with the WCRAASC please sign-up. Please see the committee chairs if you are willing to help. This is a great conference to attend so please come and learn more about Alcoholics Anonymous. If you are staying at Grandview Lodge and sharing a hotel room, each person in the room has to fill out a registration form. You should try and send the registration forms together. They will only take the first nights lodging from one person. There is enough parking at the conference center and buffet area for you to drive from your lodge if needed. The \$107.19 per night lodging is the total cost (including taxes and no service fees). The Registration Chair for the conference is asking people to preregister so we can have the name tags made in advance. We are going to need at least 2 people working the registration table (1-preregistered guests and 1-2 for walk-ins) and currently we have no one signed-up. The sign-up sheet is broken down into 2 hour shifts and will be passed around during upcoming Area 35 events (committee meetings/workshop).

AREA WORKSHOP – The 35th Annual Area 35 Service Workshop is taking place at the Coates Plaza Hotel in Virginia, MN on January 15th and 16th. The Alternate Delegate has talked with the DCM about their presentations at the workshop. As requested from the Area Inventory, we changed the format for the workshop so it is more of an informational and/or educational experience. We ask that the DCMs and districts take some time and prepare a presentation before you come that weekend. Please try and avoid preparing your presentation right before you are supposed to present. Area 35 and the districts spend a lot of money on this event and we want it to be a useful experience.

FINANCIAL OVERSITE COMMITTEE - We met as a committee on December 5th, 2010 at the Aitkin Alano Club with members including a Past Area 35 Delegate, Area 35 Treasurer, District Corrections Chair, and DCM. We reviewed the financial records of the Area 35 treasury. We went over the bank statements, reconciliation reports, check registers with a year to date balance, beginning balance, and ending balance for period six (September 29th to December 2nd, 2010). One minor error existed in contributions of a bounce check that a group had sent was recorded in the deduction section of the checking account. The conclusion was that the committee found no errors or discrepancies existing in the account. The Area 35 Treasury is safe, accurate, precise, and current. The committee also discussed follow-up and responsibilities regarding time restraint and committees. If anyone has any suggestions or comments please feel free to talk with one of the committee members. Please call or email one of the committee members with your suggestions or ideas. They would be greatly appreciated. The committee is still looking for a GSR or a district treasurer. The current financial policy is that if they are not getting reimbursed to attend the Area functions, the Area would reimburse the members for attending the event. Another question for Area 35 to think about is do we want to assign DCMs to the Financial Oversight Committee when we start new a rotation.

SPRING ASSEMBLY– The flyers for the 2011 Spring Assembly are available and you can also find the flyer on the Area 35 website. The Spring Assembly is April 2nd to 3rd, 2011 at Fortune Bay Resort in Tower, MN. The rooms cost \$76.00 per night excluding tax. We do have blocked rooms available so make reservations before March 18th by calling 1-800-555-1714. There was a concern on name the blocked rooms are listed under. On the flyer it says “Northern MN Area 35 Workshop” and some people want to know if it should say “Northern MN Area 35 Assembly.”

NEW BUSINESS

AREA 35 INVENTORY-

There was not a lot of information on the Area 35 Inventory since the Area Chair was not able to attend the committee meeting. The Area Secretary did state that the Area Chair contacted her to see if she was willing to sit on a committee for the Area 35 Inventory. The Alternate Delegate also mentioned that we are going to have two presentations on the Area Inventory during the January Workshop.

INACTIVE DISTRICTS- RITA D. - DISTRICT 5

This was a part of the Area Inventory asking if there was anything we could do to get involvement from the dark districts. There was some discussion about Foley, MN and whether it is a part of District 13 or District 5. Some felt that Foley, MN has always been a part of District 13. It was also mentioned that the group has the right to choose which district it wants to be a part of. A suggestion was made that a committee be formed to look into the matter of getting involvement from the dark districts. A few Area members felt that the Area Chair needs to be involved since this is one of his primary responsibilities. Some feel that there needs to be some people to go with the Area Chair to get these dark districts going. We need to make sure that if we make a plan to help the dark districts that we follow through with that plan. It was believed that either the Groups Records Secretary or the Delegate get a list of all of the meetings in Area 35. These lists are then passed out to the DCM for each district to check. The DCMs need to make sure they are checking these lists to make sure they are accurate. The Group Records Secretary did get a list of Area 35 meeting not that long ago and passed them out. We can get the list passed out again to DCMs if needed. One member felt we should start a committee to try again to resurrect the dark districts because if we quit trying it will never happen. One suggestion was if AA groups in dark districts are attending other districts, they should be talked with and guided through what can be done to get their district going again. There was some confusion about which districts are considered the “dark districts” since some of them have been absorbed into other districts. In the Northern Light the dark districts we shown to be Districts 10, 14, 17, 19, and 20. However, there was some discussion that Districts 10, 19, and 20 were dissolved into other districts. Area 35 had no clear consensus on the matter so the Alternate Delegate is going to do some research to find the accurate information. One of the Alternate Delegate’s duties is to create or update a map of Area 35. There was no formal vote on the matter and the Area Chair was not present, so the item was moved to the February Committee Meeting. The Alternate Delegate plans to talk with the Area Chair and Delegate about this information before the February Committee Meeting. If anyone would like to be on this committee please see the Alternate Delegate.

ZONAL ROTATION

It was found in the Area Actions Booklet that the 2010 Fall Assembly was supposed to be in Zone III and not in Zone I. In the Action Booklet it shows that the 2011 Fall Assembly is also suppose to be in Zone I making Zone I have two Fall Assemblies in a row. The problems are that all of the Assemblies in the last rotations have been up North which makes it harder for Districts in the Southern part of Area 35. The other problem, however, is that the 2011 Fall Assembly is an election year assembly. If we move the 2011 Fall Assembly from Zone I, the AA members (that may typically not go to these events) in those districts miss out on being a part of a voting assembly. A suggestion from the Area 35 Officers was to change the 2012 January Workshop from Zone I to Zone III so that we are having an Area event in that zone. Also, the 2013 Winter Workshop would be moved from Zone III to Zone I. This would still give Zone I their right to have an election assembly, and changing the January Workshop is easier than changing an Area Assembly.

A motion was made to move the 2012 Winter Workshop to Zone III instead of Zone I and move the 2013 Winter Workshop to Zone I instead of Zone III. The motion was seconded and passed.

TREATMENT BRIDGING THE GAP

The Area 35 Treatment Chair was asked to create form similar to the forms created in Area 36 for temporary contacts for people coming out of treatment. The Area 35 Treatment Chair has created two forms to be used in getting contacts for alcoholics in treatment centers. One of the forms is for alcoholics in treatment who are looking for a contact in their home town for after they complete treatment. The other form is for AA members to fill out who are willing to be a tem-

(Continued on page 19)

(Continued from page 18)

porary contact for alcoholics completing treatment and moving to their area. A suggestion on the form filled out by alcoholics in treatment, was to take out the current Area 35 Treatment Chair's name and phone number so it only has the email address treatment@area35.org. The reason is the current Area 35 Treatment Chair will be rotating out in a year and the same form could still be used by the incoming Area Treatment Chair. We have the same type of forms used by the Area 35 Corrections Chair and are working. One of the guidelines in the service workbook for an Area 35 Treatment Chair is to create a temporary contact form to be used as service material. There forms should not have to be approved by the area to be used in Area 35. If however there were concerns about the form, members of Area 35 would have the right to talk with the Treatment Chair.

DONATIONS FOR AREA 35 ELECTRONICALLY

In the Northern Light on page 20 there is a chart and summary of the information the Area 35 Treasurer has found for starting online contributions. Currently, there are not a lot of Areas using online contributions. Since the information was only distributed to members of Area 35 in the past week, the Area 35 Treasurer felt that the information should be looked over and discussed by groups and districts. The Area 35 Treasurer asked that we wait to make any formal action on online contributions until the Spring Assembly. At this time we could answer any questions people may have. Keep in mind that the information on the Northern Light has zeros that should not be there. Discussion: One question was do groups in Area 35 want online contributions or if this started because of a couple of people. Is this cost effective and/or an effective use of our time? The Treasurer pointed out that the groups cannot make a decision as to whether they want online contributions until they have the information. Currently, there has been no cost to the area for researching online contributions. One member stated that this was a request made by the area and not one person or the treasurer. How many groups would have to do this in order to make this cost effective? The Treasurer responded by saying that it can depend on the service provider. Some service providers have a monthly service fee that the Area would have to pay and others do not have a monthly service fee. Some service providers charge the person/group making the contribution a processing fee (about 2%) instead of having a monthly service fee. For example, if a group contributed between \$30 and \$50, they would have a 2% processing fee of around \$0.60 to \$1.00. This is about the same cost as sending a check in the mail (stamp, envelope, check, and receipt for contribution). One AA member mentioned that checks are not being used or accepted as frequently anymore and that everything is moving towards credit card and debit cards. Also, everything is starting to move towards being electronic and online. This item will be added to the agenda under old business for the 2011 Spring Assembly so groups and districts will have enough time to look over the information and make a decision.

\$150 CPC REQUEST FOR BOOTH AT CONFERENCE

The Area 35 CPC Chair was told about a conference being held at the Holiday Inn in Duluth/Superior with a cost of \$150 to have a table display. The conference is called the MN Juvenile Officers' Conference. There is no registration fee, but only the cost of having the table at the conference. We currently have the literature and would only need to get a few people to sit at the table during the conference. This was something that was not budgeted for by the CPC Chair so we are asking the area to add this to the budget. One Area member felt this would be a great opportunity for AA to education officers that work with kids. Currently, the Area Chairs and Officers are under their yearly budgets. One Area member wanted to know if this was District 12's responsibility and should they be paying for the table? The response was that this is actually a joint effort by Districts 8, 9, and 12 who have volunteered to staff the table at the conference, but not accurately pay for the table. This conference was brought to these three districts attention by the Area CPC Chair. This conference is not only for juvenile officers in Districts 8, 9, and 12 but for officers all over Minnesota. This is a statewide event so some members felt that this should be paid for by the Area since we also pay to have a booth at the State Fair. The Area 35 CPC Committee was in support of attending this meeting and Area 35 paying the cost for the table display.

A motion was made that Area 35 pay \$150 to have a table display during the MN Juvenile Officers' Conference. The motion was seconded and passed with a majority of votes.

AREA 35 2011 BUDGET

According to the new financial policy, the Area 35 Officers and Action Committee Chairs were all ready suppose to have their 2011 budgets to the Area Treasurer. However, this did not happen with the new policy starting in October. The Area 35 Treasurer is asking all Area 35 Officers and Chairs get their budget turned in as soon as possible so the 2011 Area Budget can be put into the January Northern Light. The budget will be presented for approval at the 2011 Spring Assembly so groups and districts need to review the budget in the Northern Light before the Spring Assembly.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Wild Rice Round-up- January 21st to 23rd, 2011 at Shooting Star in Mahnommen, MN
February Area Committee Meeting- February 27^h at Aitkin Alano Club in Aitkin, MN
Northstar Round-up- February 18th to 19th, 2011 at Seven Clans Casino in Thief River Falls, MN
WCRAASC- March 4th to 6th, 2011 at Grandview Lodge in Nisswa, MN
Big Ole Round-up – March 11th to 13th, 2011 at Broadway Ballroom in Alexandria, MN
Winter Rap Up – March 18th to 20th, 2011 at Coates Plaza Hotel in Virginia, MN
Spring Assembly- April 2nd and 3rd, 2011 at Fortune Bay Resort and Casino in Tower, MN

CLOSED WITH THE LORDS PRAYER

Northern Light Article

Service Work do I need this?

I sobered up in Brainerd some 15 years ago and started going to AA meetings here at the time. The meetings I went to for the first 10 years of my sobriety had very little to do with service work outside of extending the hand to the still suffering Alcoholic. That was about it, I had not heard or was shown anything concerning the GSO or the District 7 or Area 35. These were outside the realm of my experience. I moved away from Brainerd, to Western Wisconsin for about 5 years and went to a lot of meetings out there, but again very little exposure to the service structure of AA. I was staying sober, going to meetings and things seemed pretty good, all in all. About 5 years ago I moved back to Brainerd and once again began attending meetings here. One of the first meetings I checked out was one called Sleepy Hollow out to the south of town about half way to Little Falls. I was happy to be reacquainted with an old school mate and I soon made it a home group. This was where I began my life in the AA service structure.

I have learned a lot from the work with the district and am very grateful.

Peace be with you and God Bless

Yours in Service
Mark N. - BRAINERD
DCM District 7

Northern Light Article

Recovery, Unity and Service!

For myself this applies to my recovery, my home group, the District and the Area. I have a part in all of them and I feel a huge responsibility to all of them also. My story in service is a little unusual as I am coming up on 5 years of sobriety and have 5 1/2 years of service. This is most definitely not recommended however, I am very grateful that my home group "A Different Way" group and District 5 allowed me to continue with my service responsibilities after my relapse period. I feel I grew stronger, faster due to that and also feel that it was all part of my Higher Power's (whom I call God) plan for me. So, I have more service time than sobriety time! My service history is as follows: GSR, Home Group Secretary-Treasurer-Group Chair-Sponsorship Chair and Speaker Chair, District Treatment Chair, Alternate DCM and currently serving as DCM.

I have been a part of many Inventories. My own of course...and now on a daily basis! Home Group Inventories, District Inventories and after the Area 35 Fall Assembly this year I've had the pleasure of being a part of two Area Inventories. Inventories are a wonderful part of sobriety. To me they mean learning more about ourselves and we are given the opportunity to grow and change! I unlike some people LOVE Inventories. This is a way for me to find out how I can better serve God, my family, home group, District & the Area. If there were no Inventories at the Service levels, how would anyone know how we can better serve & thus better reach the still suffering alcoholic?

Now to talk about the Area Inventory specifically. Without a Inventory at this level how can the Area better serve the Groups and Districts. Again this is a AWESOME opportunity for growth and change! In all honesty the Area Inventory in 2008 seemed to fall by the wayside, not blaming anyone by no means. I just feel that this year the Inventory was a better experience for myself. Starting with getting the Inventory questions at the Committee meeting in August and therefore able to get them to District Committee Chairs and GSR's. We then as a District went through the questions at our District meeting in September. I felt better prepared and also that the inventory was a very thorough process as we were all able to carry the conscience of the groups and District. I also was given the opportunity to chair a break-out session for questions 1-4 during the Inventory process. I feel that there was great discussion and participation from all in attendance. When we met as a body we were all given the opportunity to comment on the remaining questions that we were not a part of in the break-out session. The entire process was very moving and spiritual to myself....I don't know about you, but I felt the presence of God in the room.

It does not stop there as we know, doing the Inventory is one thing....now what to do with the concerns and suggestions. This again was a great experience. Some changes were implemented immediately, starting with our Alternate Delegate Jim K.. The change was the topics for the Area Service Workshop in January. Jim immediately changed the topics for Districts to present on. This includes topics regarding our service responsibilities, GSR's, DCM's, Area Committee Chairs, Area Officers and the Inventory questions. We are moving forward with the Inventory and taking the next step....looking at possible changes and or improvements. District 5 has been given the opportunity to present on Inventory questions 9-17! What an blessing it will be to serve & be a part of this process. We will present based on the responses given at the Fall Assembly, come up with suggestions/ideas and open it up to the body for your suggestions/ideas. I feel the Area Inventory was very good and that all present were willing, honest and open minded! Some changes may come soon, some may take a while to implement and others may not move forward.

I know I am where God wants me to be at this time in my life. I would like to say that if you don't feel you are a part of, it may be because you need more in your sobriety....like service work. Service work to Alcoholics Anonymous allows me to have a voice in all decisions made. If we do not ever suit up and show up, how can we have a voice? Finally I would like to thank my home group, District 5, Area 35 and all past Delegates and Service members as you have all been a part of my sobriety at one point or another. I am extremely grateful and blessed to have had the opportunities that have so freely been given me! I Love You All!!

Yours in Service,

Rita D. - MILACA
DCM District 5

Northern Light Article

Concept IX

After reading through this concept mainly describing leadership in AA I have some thoughts that have come to mind. One of them is that AA in Northern Mn is following many of the trends in AA across the U.S. I believe that we lack vision...not the vision of our founders in carrying the message but vision that maintains our course as a spiritual entity. We sacrifice discussion for decision...our pride is hurt if we are disagreed with....we react without spiritual guidance and seem to think that if its not done today it will never get done. This is the way of the rest of the world not the way we are taught in AA. We are taught that we must aim for perfection and to sacrifice the good for the best.

AA is a fellowship that is concerned with recovery from alcoholism. We seem to be catering too making life easier for us rather than how we can best help the still suffering alcoholic. No wonder many people are confused with General Service and find it political and different from what the main body of AA is trying to do. I believe that we must integrate General Service back into the seats of AA and spend time together as a fellowship in AA not separate. My vision for the future of area 35 and all of AA is that we get to know each other and God better so that none of us feels apart from or different because our aim is the same...get drunks help that they so desperately need and want.

Northern Light Article

Emmet Fox and Alcoholics Anonymous

By Igor S., Hartford, Conn.

One of the very early recovering alcoholics who worked with co-founder Bill W. was a man named Al, whose mother was secretary to Emmet Fox, a popular lecturer on New Thought philosophy. When the early groups were meeting in New York, members would frequently adjourn after a meeting and go to Steinway Hall to listen to Fox's lecture. To this day there are AA groups that distribute Fox's pamphlets along with Conference-approved AA literature.

An account sets forth in "Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers" tells of the influence of Emmet Fox and his classic work, "Sermon on the Mount." An AA old-timer recollected: "The first thing he (Dr. Bob) did was to get Emmet Fox's 'Sermon on the Mount'....Once when I was working on a woman in Cleveland, I called and asked him what to do for someone who is going into DT's. He told me to give her the medication and he said, 'When she comes out of it and she decides she wants to be a different woman, get her Drummond's 'The Greatest Thing in the World.' Tell her to read it through every day for thirty days and she'll be a different woman.' Those were the three main books at the time; that and 'The Upper Room' and 'The Sermon on the Mount.'"

Perhaps the fundamental contribution of Emmet Fox to Alcoholics Anonymous was the simplicity and power of "The Sermon on the Mount." This book sets forth the basic principles of the New Thought philosophy that ["God is the only power, and that evil is insubstantial; that we form our own destiny by our thoughts and our beliefs; that conditions do not matter when we pray; that time and space and matter are human illusions; that there is a solution to every problem; that man is the child of God, and God is perfect good."](#)

Central to New Thought philosophy was the perspective which saw that love and personal forgiveness were the keys to fundamental transformation: ["Love is by far the most important thing of all. It is the Golden Gate of Paradise. Pray for the understanding of love, and meditate upon it daily. It casts out fear. It is the fulfilling of the Law. It covers a multitude of sins. Love is absolutely invincible."](#)

Fox went on to say that forgiveness was an integral part of the Pathway of Love, "which is open to everyone in all circumstances, and upon which you may step at any moment - at this moment if you like - requires no formal introduction, has no conditions whatever. It calls for no expensive laboratory in which to work, because your own daily life, and your ordinary daily surroundings are your laboratory. It needs no reference library, no professional training, no external apparatus of any kind. All it does need is that you should begin steadfastly to expel from your mentality every thought of personal condemnation (you must condemn a wrong action, but not the actor), of resentment for old injuries, and of everything which is contrary to the law of Love. You must not allow yourself to hate either person, or group, or nation, or anything whatever.

["You must build-up by faithful daily exercise the true Love-consciousness, and then all the rest of spiritual development will follow upon that. Love will heal you. Love will illumine you."](#)

One of the cornerstones of Fox's philosophy was to live but one day at a time, to be responsible for one's own thoughts and to clear up resentments, just as AA was to teach that "resentments are our number one cause of slips." For Fox, one of the most important rules for growth was to live in the present: ["Live in today, and do not allow yourself to live in the past under any pretense. Living the past means thinking about the past, rehearsing past events, especially if you do this with feeling...train yourself to be a man or woman who lives one day at a time. You'll be surprised how rapidly conditions will change for the better when you approach this ideal."](#)

Emmet Fox emphasized the idea that thoughts are real things, and that one cannot have one kind of mind and another kind of life.

2011 – AREA 35 SCHEDULE

Area Meeting - February 27, 2011 - 9:00 am
Aitkin Alano Club
322 1st. Avenue N.E.
Aitkin, MN

2011 West Central Region
Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference
"We are Responsible for A.A.'s Future — Let it Begin With Us"
MARCH 4-6, 2011
Grand View Lodge 23521 Nokomis Ave. Nisswa, MN
Check Area 35 Event Calendar flier for registration information!

Treatment/Corrections Workshop
Friday, April 1st, 2011 7 pm - **Night before Assembly**
Fortune Bay Resort - 1430 Bois Forte Road Tower, MN

Spring Assembly
April, 2-3rd 2011
Fortune Bay Resort - 1430 Bois Forte Road Tower, MN Call: 1-800
-555-1714 for Reservations Blocked Rooms: “Northern MN Area 35
Assembly” ROOOM RATES: \$76.00/NIGHT (EXCLUDING TAX)
(reservations must be made by March 18TH)

Area Meeting - June 5th - 9:00 am
Aitkin Alano Club
322 1st. Avenue N.E.
Aitkin, MN

Area Meeting - August 7th - 9:00 am
Aitkin Alano Club
322 1st. Avenue N.E.
Aitkin, MN

Area 35 Northern MN Fall Assembly -
October 1 - 2, 2011
To be announced

February 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	Valentine's Day 14	15	16	17	18	19
20	Presidents Day 21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					U.S. Federal Holidays are Red
Http://www.Printfree.com						

March 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Daylight Saving Ahead 1 hr 13	14	15	16	St Patrick's Day 17	18	19
Spring Begins 20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		U.S. Federal Holidays are Red
Http://www.Printfree.com						

Upcoming Events in Areas 35 & 36

Note: Area 35 events take precedence!

Northstar RoundUp
February, 18-19
Seven Clans Casino
20592 Central St. E
Thief River Falls, MN

7th Annual Big Ole Roundup - Alexandria
March 12-14
Meeting accommodations by:
Broadway Ballroom & Restaurant
115 30th Ave. East, Alexandria
Tel: 320-763-6565

32nd Annual Winter Rap Up
March 18 - 20,
Coates Plaza Hotel
502 Chestnut Street
Virginia, MN
Registration by February, 18th - 1-800-777-4699

Stearns County Roundup
March 26
Address - The Landing
18527 County Road 154 Avon, MN
Call Nick for Info 320-292-0090

66th Annual Superior Roundup
April 15th, 16th, 17th, 2011
Superior Fair Grounds Curling Club
4700 Tower Avenue
Superior, Wisconsin 54880
Visit: SuperiorRoundup.com for more information

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

Iron Range Get-Together
April, 29th to May 1st 2011
Wendigo Lodge
20108 Gold Crest Rd.
Grand Rapids, Mn
866-727-7345

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

Desirable qualifications: Current 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

February 27, 2011

- ___ 9:00 A.M. Action Chair Committee Meetings

___ 10:30 am Area Committee Meeting

___ Call to Order Open with the Serenity Prayer

___ Recognize past delegates

___ Add To Agenda

___ Approve December Committee Meeting Minutes

OFFICER REPORTS

___ Delegate- Jon C.

___ Alternate Delegate – Jim K.

___ Chair-Michael (Jake) J.

___ Secretary-Heidi R.

___ Treasurer-Sarah K.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS

___ Literature – Bob K.

___ District 8-Randy A.

___ District 12-Jana M.

___ Treatment- Robert(Butch) R.

___ District 9-Chuck R.

___ District 15-Sandy H.

___ Public Information- Roger R.

___ DISTRICT 7-Mark N.

___ District 11- Gary H.

___ Group Records- Laurie R.

___ Northern Light- Daniel R.

___ District 2-Rodney P.

___ District 16- Mary S.

___ Corrections- Kelly D.

___ District 3- Jim S.
- ___ District 4 - Dee Dee B.

___ CPC- Doug N.

___ District 13-Gayle S.

___ District 1- Lon G.

___ Grapevine- Dee K.

___ District 21 - Carl B.

___ District 18 - Mike D.

___ Webmaster - Steve L.

___ Archives-Brad I./ Art A.

___ District 5-Rita D.

___ District 6 - Kathy G.

___ Lunch

OLD BUSINESS

___ WRAASC

___ Financial Oversight Committee

___ Spring Assembly

___ Area 35 Inventory

___ Inactive districts

NEW BUSINESS

___ State Fair- Roger R.

___ Literature/ Grapevine proposal - Bob K.

___ E-mail etiquette

___ Calendar of Events

___ TBA

___ Adjourn
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