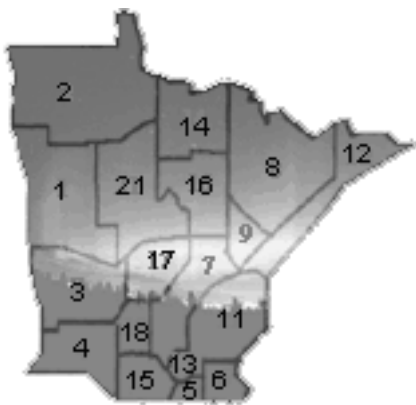


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Deadline for the next
Northern Light is
May 4th, 2011

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

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DISTRICT 21

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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!

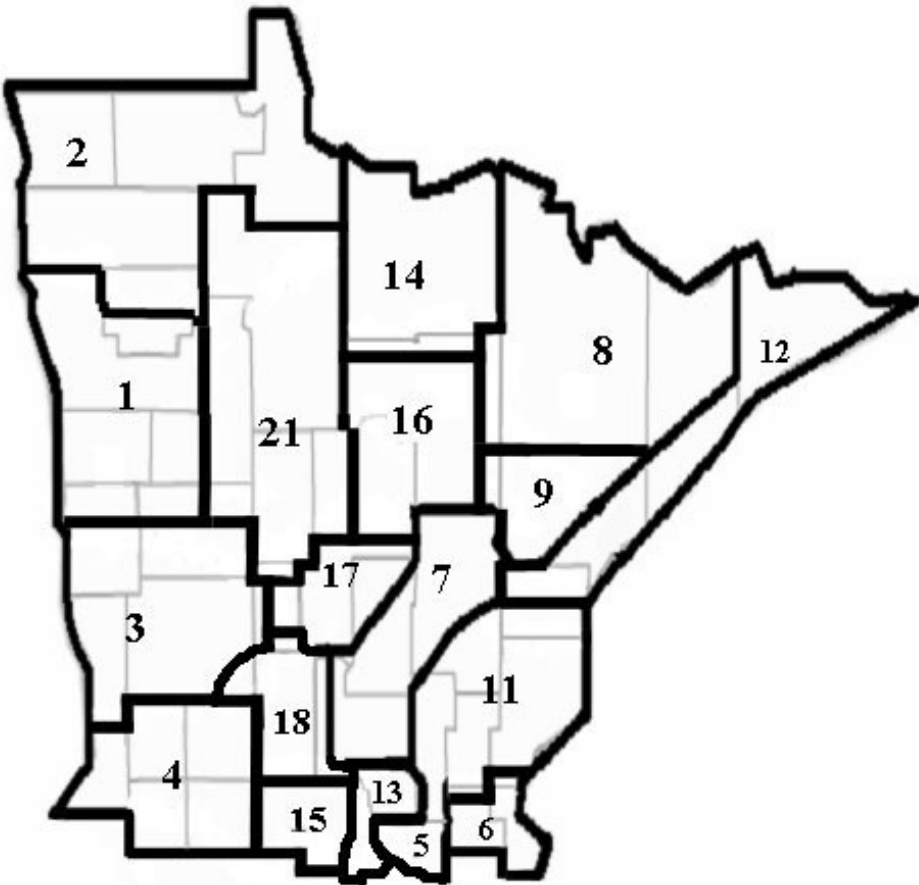
Our Past Delegates

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

Zone II

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

Zone III

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

<p>District 1 2nd Sunday of even months, 2:00 p.m. Fertile Community Center 101 S. Mill St., Fertile, MN 56540</p>	<p>District 6 3rd Thursday of Month, 7:30 p.m. Spring Lake Lutheran Church 8440 Erickson Rd. N.E. North Branch, MN 55056</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>District 2 2nd Sunday of Odd Months, 2:00 p.m. First Lutheran Church 210 Park Ave. N. Middle River, MN 56737</p>	<p>District 7 3rd Thursday of Month, 7:00 p.m. First Congregational United Church 415 Juniper Street Brainerd, MN 56401</p>	<p>District 15 1st Monday of Month, 8:00 p.m. Albany Community Center 741 Lake Ave. Albany, MN 56307</p>
<p>District 3 3rd Sunday of Month, 10:00 a.m. Perham Alano Club Hwy 34 Perham, MN 56573</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>District 9 Last Sunday of Month, 6:00 p.m. Hibbing Alano Club 3725 1st Avenue Hibbing, MN 55746</p>	<p>District 18 1st Tuesday of Month, 6:30 p.m. Long Prairie Alano Club 21 2nd Ave. Long Prairie, MN 56347</p>
<p>District 5 3rd Monday of Month, 7 p.m. St. John Lutheran Church 13045 Fremont Ave Zimmerman, MN 55398</p>	<p>District 11 1st Tuesday of Month, 7:00 p.m. Peace Lutheran 2177 Hwy 18 Finlayson, MN 55735</p>	<p>District 21 2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m. Bemidji Alano Club 1225 Anne St.</p>
	<p>District 12 3rd Thursday 6:30 p.m. Email DCM Jana at dcm12@area35.org for rotating location!</p>	<p>Districts 10, 14, 17, 19 and 20 Not currently active or unknown!</p>

Delegate's Report

I look forward to our Spring Assembly at Fortune Bay in Tower, MN. AT this assembly we will be discussing our 2011 General Service Conference agenda items. I passed this information on to the officers, chairs, DCM's and past delegates as soon as I was able. There is a lot of information to review and not much time. It is my hope that the DCM's get this information to their GSR's and, in turn, to the group members. It is so important that I who serve all members of Area 35 have an informed group conscience on these agenda items. The only way to make this happen is to ensure that the GSR's are informed and bring back their group conscience to this assembly. I want to carry the group conscience of Area 35 and not of Jon C.. This is extremely important.

I was just sent each group's contributions for 2010 from the General Service Office. In 2009, 43.55% of the groups contributed compared to 42% in 2010. I had hoped that the percentage of groups contributing would have been greater in 2010. One problem that could be addressed would be for all the people in service, especially the officers and chairs, visit groups and districts to explain the seventh tradition. It is the responsibility from the GSR down to the delegate. Please let us all work harder to inform groups and districts so that our participating will increase to all entities. Thank you.

We have taken an inventory of Area 35. I believe this is very important to ensure that the main focus of service is to help anyone, anywhere, with a desire to stop drinking. At this Spring Assembly, we must implement some suggestions from this inventory. This is what the group conscience of the area wanted and it is our responsibility as trusted servants to implement.

In advance, I want to thank you all in Area 35 for the privilege of attending the 61st General Service Conference in New York 4/30/11-5/6/11. I truly look forward to all the sharing at the West Central Service Conference and our Spring Assembly to prepare me for the conference. It is so important to arrive at an informed group conscience on these agenda items.

In closing, if there is anything I can do to help carry the message for a member, group, district, or area, please ask. I will and want to help. Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 35 as your delegate.

God Bless,
Jon C.

Alternate Delegate's Report

Greetings Members of Area 35,

It was nice to see many of you this last week at the Aitkin Committee Meeting as well as at the West Central Regional Service Conference in Nisswa. I hope that the coming months prove to be active ones for all of us as we work on continuing to carry the message to those who still suffer.

I want to thank all who attended and participated in this year's Area 35 Service Workshop in Virginia. Our active participation in our workshop will continue to help it become all that it can. A full report outlining the event, as well as possible suggestions for the future, will be available at the upcoming Spring Assembly in Tower.

I was able to attend the WCRAASC in Nisswa for Ken B's report on Sunday as well as the presentation by Area 36. It was wonderful to see many members there actively participating in this process. I have also received and started to go through the background information regarding this year's conference agenda items. I am looking forward to further discussing the items at our upcoming assembly.

We have secured a date, time, and location for our next Zonal Forum which will be held in Zone 4. The event will take place May 14th from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Duluth Alano Club. The flier is available on our Area 35 website and will also be handed out at the Spring Assembly. I encourage all AA members but especially those in Districts 8, 9, and 12 to attend this event.

Thanks again for this opportunity to serve and I look forward to seeing you all at the Spring Assembly in April.

Yours in Service,
Jim K.

Chair's Report

Its that time again. The busiest time for most of us especially our Delegate Jon, lets make sure we give him lots of support and prayers. Thanks for your input and hard work the last year. At our Area 35 committee meeting we once again had our finances balance (thanks Sarah for a great job) and were able to consider some new issues such as how to handle finances for our grapevine and literature chairs. I slipped up on not getting our inventory committee together as a group so they will be under pressure to bring us something to the spring assembly. I would like to thank all of you personally for doing such a great job and for the groups in area 35 that have stepped forward and brought our finances into better shape. I feel we are a part of one of the best Areas in the country and you make it possible. I am hoping for a good turnout at our Spring Assembly as these are where we get to spend more time together as a whole. Make sure you bring something soft to sit on as it is always a long weekend going thru our agenda items. I handed out delegate resumes to each district and hope that by June we have a great field to choose from. May you be blessed in the fellowship and know that we are doing Gods work.

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

Secretary's Report

Greeting everyone in Area 35!

Wow! I cannot believe it has only been a week since my last report. I learned so much information from the WCRAASC and had a great time. First, I got an in depth understanding of all the Agenda Items and feel ready for the Spring Assembly when we go over each Agenda Items. There was great discussion on both sides of an Agenda item so I walked away with a well rounded view. I feel I can make an informed decision. At one of the presentation put on by different Areas, I learned that when send out minutes and flyers using the Area 35 email distribution lists I created, I should put the addresses in as a blind copy (bcc). Now, I am sure I have learned about this information before but did not put two and two together that I could do this with my email distribution lists. If I send emails as blind copies, no one will see the names and email addresses, which will protect the anonymity of AA members and not break the traditions.

On Saturday I sat in on the Area Officers breakout session where I got some great ideas that we could use in Area 35. One thing I learned from the breakout session was the definition of the function of an Area that is found in the Conference Charter. I also learned that in Area 36 they have an Area Officers meeting one time per month where they discuss upcoming event and issues within their area. This could possibly be something we in Area 35 could look at doing. Maybe would could have the meetings through teleconferences or video conferences on the computer. One great suggestion that I can start doing myself, is attending district meetings and workshops to just listen and learn.

On Sunday I learned what a Group Institution Representative (GIR) does. I had never heard of this before and found it very interesting. A GIR is the person in an AA group that keeps track of all service responsibilities for the group. For example, some AA groups put on a jail meeting one time a month and chair an AA meeting in a treatment center one time a month. The GIR would be the person who would keep track of these responsibilities and make sure people are attending from the AA group. Also on Sunday our West Central Regional Trustee spoke. At the end of this year (2011) he will be rotating out of his position and we will be nominating someone else for West Central Regional Trustee. The Trustee went over his responsibilities as West Central Regional Trustee and the responsibilities for the next West Central Regional Trustee. I found this to be great information that I can use when I vote for a candidate. I feel I will be able to better chose the best person for the job and who will represent the West Central Region

Yours in Service,
Heidi R.

Treasurer's Report

Greetings Area 35!

I recently had the great joy and privilege of attending the WCRAASC right in my neck of the woods. As always, I enjoyed experiencing the group conscience in action and learned quite a bit. I even tried to share a bit of experience from our Area with the rest of the attendees. I attended the Area Officers breakout session where we discussed what the function of the area officer is, how the area officers relate to area committees, and how area officers can help their DCMs, Districts, and GSRs. I got several great suggestions, including one from our Area Chair about having the entire area committee meet together. I'm excited about this suggestion; I think it could be very helpful for us to share and learn from each other. It was also pointed out that visiting the districts just to listen is a good way to find out their needs and can inform us of ways we can be helpful to and better serve them. Finally, it seems other Area's handle business at the committee meetings so assemblies can be devoted to the GSRs and facilitation communication. I'm going to get a hold of another Area's agenda to see what this looks like. Back in the general assembly there were many great presentations on various topics dealing with service. Of course, the most exciting part for me was the discussion of the agenda items. I took cursory notes of every agenda item discussion, and I would happily share those with anyone interested—just shoot me an email and I'll forward them to you. It seemed to me that the Grapevine was the "hottest topic" of the weekend. Here, however, I will only include a summary of discussion points on finance, as it pertains to my service position and the breakout session I will be chairing at the Spring Assembly. Under finance, the item most discussed was the request for a finance workbook. A poll was taken to get a sense of the room, and at first a majority opposed such a creation, but after some sharing about the lack of any such finance materials for treasurers, the need for any information on the 7th tradition to help encourage self-support, the fact that most other committees have workbooks to assist them, and the fact that the materials already exist and could simply be put into a packet, a new poll was taken and the room was split. Most dissension was over the lack of a need for this, and the comment was made that we should be doing the work ourselves. The cost for developing a workbook was unknown. Then there was item D, which requests the development of a finance kit. The cost for this would be minimal as it would not require developing any new materials, only gathering currently existing ones. There was no discussion from the floor on this item; it seemed to be grouped with the previous one. Interestingly, after the discussion I was approached by the Archivist from S. MN who has an old finance "workbook" that he's going to forward to me. He thought it contained information about the Challenge of the 7th Tradition (don't know what that is? Stop by and talk to me during the Spring Assembly and I'll happily explain!) Finally, under item E it was mentioned that we should include the challenge of the 7th Tradition as a way to encourage self-support. So, if any of these items sound interesting to you, please be sure to attend the Finance breakout session at the Spring assembly in Tower. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Grateful to be of service
Sarah K.

Corrections Report

Greetings Area 35,

I attended the Aitkin Committee Meeting on January 27th and we had good attendance with 8 Districts represented in our meeting. I also attended the January Workshop in Virginia and would like to thank all that attended and participated to make it a successful workshop. Butch and I will be holding our Zone IV Corrections/Treatment Workshop Friday, April 1st in Tower at the Fortune Bay Resort the weekend of the Spring Assembly. He would love to have you join us! We will be getting together with the Districts in Zone 3 to hold our last workshop of the year in the fall. We are looking at having the Area 35 PI /CPC Chairs present at that workshop along with us. It will be a great workshop with a lot of information to pass on to you all. I received many more inmates that are due to be released from prison that need contacts and I will be passing that information on to our Corrections Chairs and DCM's. As always I need to thank everyone that has been willing to be a contact for these individuals, we have had many. I will be attending St. Cloud Prison Transitional Fair on May 11th with Jeff, Corrections Chair for District 13. I look forward to attending the WCRAASC this weekend at the Grandview Lodge in Nisswa. I would like to thank the Area for the opportunity I have been given to serve on this committee along with so many others. Thanks also to the many that have volunteered to be of service in one way or another throughout the conference, we could not do it without your help!

In gratitude and service,
Kelly D.

PI Chair's Report

Thank you all for the opportunity to continue to serve Area 35. I am serving on the WCRAASC 2011 planning committee. I am also serving on the Area 35 Area inventory Committee and hope to work with this committee on a report to you all at our Spring Assembly.

At the February Area Committee meeting in Aitkin MN I delivered the following State Fair Report. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions on my State Fair report.

Area 35 2010 State Fair Report

The total cost of the 2010 AA State Fair Booth, at the Minnesota State Fair, for booth rental and literature handed out was \$1613.00. Area 35 staffed this booth for two days and contributed \$500.00 to the total costs. I would like to again thank all of our 2010 State Fair Volunteers for your service. All booth volunteers filled out a shift survey. This report is based upon their surveys.

The move of the AA booth from the Grandstand Building to the Education Building appears to have been a success. Approximately 100,000 people passed by the booth during our two days (first weekend) of staffing. This informed a lot of folks that AA is still active in our state.

A large amount of AA literature was passed out at the booth (see attached Area 35 State Fair Survey Results). Our literature plays an important role in carrying our message.

Booth visitors included: professionals, AA members, friends and families of still suffering alcoholics), friends/family of AA members, young people and still suffering alcoholics. Visitors included both females and males. Visitors included all age groups. The greatest numbers of visitors were 25-54 in age.

This suggests we were successful in carrying our message at the Minnesota State Fair. Our message was carried both directly to still suffering alcoholics and indirectly through friends/families of still suffering alcoholics and professionals.

I have attached the Area 35 State Fair Shift Survey Results from which this report was generated. I have also attached Mary S's State Fair report from Area 36.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to be of service to Area 35.

Roger R.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Treatment Chair’s Report

Once again Greetings from Northern Minnesota the snow is deep and the temp is cold. Districts in our area in our area continue to carry the message of hope into the Facilities in their Districts. There are many out there that we haven't made contact with yet. You may go to web address dasis3.samhsa.gov follow the instructions and be able to find every Treatment Center that you may want to contact. I realize some may not be interested

but look at them as great opportunities.

I receive requests from the help desk in Southern Minnesota as to those requesting contacts in the Northern Area and pass them along. Communication is key to placing these people.

Now getting to the WCRAASC. I thank the Area for allowing me to attend and what a great experience. The Area did a great job of hosting and was fortunate to be able to

be a part of the host committee. I am looking forward to the upcoming Assembly and the many other things we have ahead of us. Never a dull and boring moment when you choose to be active in Service.

See you all soon and Thank You for allowing me to Serve.

In Service, Butch R.

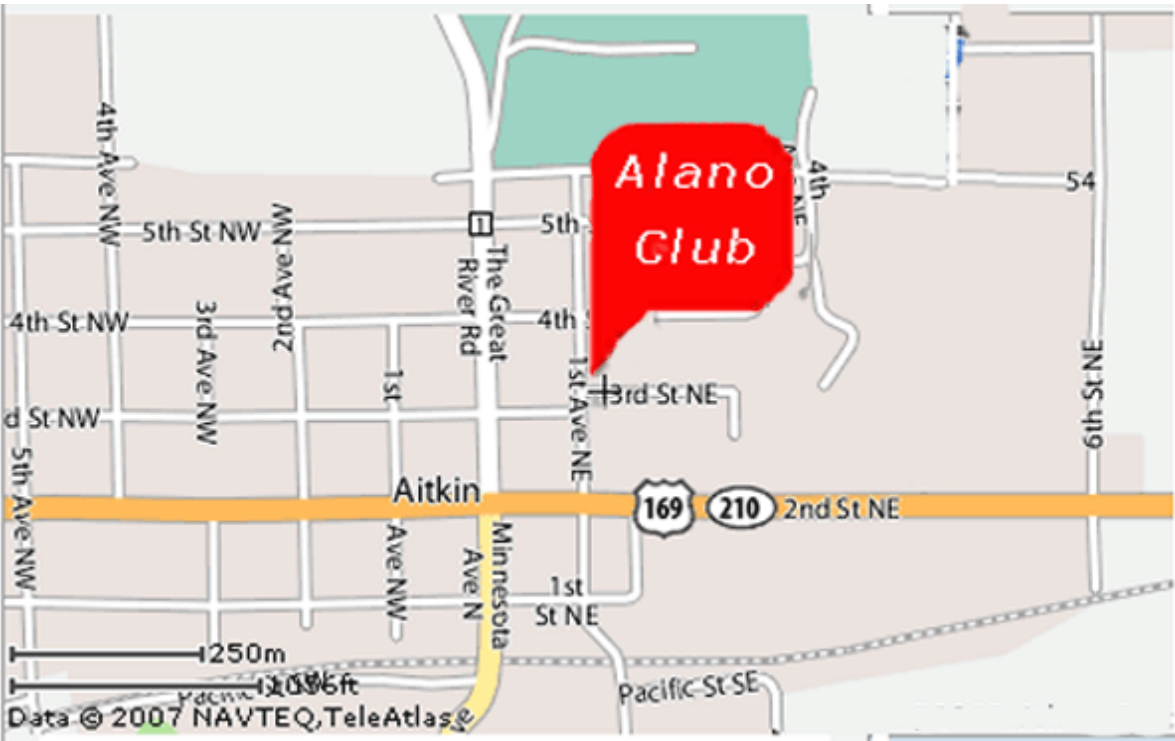
Inclement Weather Procedure For Area 35 Events

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

Where is the Aitkin Alano Club?

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

Come join us!



Submissions to the Northern Light

General submissions to the *Northern Light* are very welcome! Feel free to send letters or articles that are pertinent to general service in Alcoholics Anonymous in Northern Minnesota. However, please note that if space is limited, first priority will be given to reports from Area Officers, Area Standing Committee Chairs and D.C.M.s from Area 35.

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

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

Daniel R.
Area 35
Northern Light Editor

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

ARCHIVIST

Here was my history challenge from the last issue of the NL.

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

Hello everyone. I hope you enjoyed the Regional Service Conference as much as I did. The Archives display was very well received and I had a lot of fascinating questions from various members. **The answer to last issues question is Rollie H. in the “Sporting News” in 1939.** Sorry for such a short article but I am pressed for time.

Brad I.

GROUP RECORDS

Hi everyone, 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 allowing me to serve,

Laurie R.

GRAPEVINE

We had a nice turnout at the Area Committee meeting. Grapevine Committee had a new rep from Dist.18. He seems to be enthusiastic about his new challenge.

Welcome to Service work. I will be attending the WCRAASC in Nisswa this weekend. There will be a Grapevine display and Items for sale. I hope it all sells so can do another order before the Spring Assembly in Tower.

Spring assemblies are always interesting and allow for growth of all those attending. I look forward to seeing a lot of our Members there. This is an important assembly and seeing how Service work really does.

I am looking forward to the Grapevine Workshop that I will be putting on at the Perham Alano Club. Districts 3 & 18 will be hosting the workshop. Sounds like a pot luck at noon followed by the Grapevine Workshop. This will be combined with the Literature Workshop.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve

Dee K.

LITERATURE

Not a lot new from last week but we have a workshop!! April 9 at the Perham Alano there will be grilling and potluck at 12:00 PM. 1:00 PM we will be talking about how to make a Literature order, what's free, recover, unity, service pamphlets and other things that can be ordered. Grapevine is included.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve

Bob K

ARCHIVE CHAIR

There were 5 people present at the Archives meeting with representation from District 2, 5, 8, 13, and 6. Brad presented an Archives Work-

shop in Brainerd with about 50 people in attendance. I attended the Round-up in Thief River Falls, February 18 and 19th. District 6 is thinking of having an archives workshop sometime this summer. District 5 Archives Chair is busy putting group histories together. Rich from Virginia is working with past SCM's and committee chairs to collect part histories for AA groups. Workshops- Districts 21, 2, 1, and 3.

Art A.

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

I first want to thank Area 35 for supporting me and allowing me to serve. Districts 8 CPC/PI phone line is going well and they were involved with the Juveniles Correction Convention with around 173 people in attendance. A quarterly report is sent out by GSO for professional such as ministers, lawyers, judges, and etc. This is a good thing to get the message out and could be brought back to districts. In the Grapevine it stated that there are around 19 million people still suffering from alcohol. Getting information out to professionals will help them direct the alcoholics to AA. District 18 had a CPC/PI luncheon that was well attended. District 13 is going to the St. Cloud VA with ongoing presence with their inpatient program. They also have ongoing cooperation with the MN National Guard and their drug and alcohol classes where they show the video “Hope” then explain what AA is and isn't. District 13 has a CPC Luncheon this Wednesday at St. Cloud State University with 16 professionals attending. In April District 13 along with Area 36 are doing a CPC luncheon for all Chaplains in the MN National Guard. District 7 has reprinted meeting schedules and plans to have a CPC luncheon in the fall. District 5 is also planning to have a CPC luncheon. I also want to thank the CPC Chair for District 12 for arranging to get a table at the MN Juvenile Officers Conference in Duluth.

I am working with Kelly D., Corrections to get an informational meeting into the Moose Lake facility.

Doug N.

WEBMASTER'S REPORT

It's only been through the grace of God and the program and fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous that I haven't found it necessary to take a drink.

At the February 27 meeting we had 8 in attendance from 4 districts. Districts 2, 3, 7, 16 plus Group Records Secretary and Northern Light Editor and me.

I was in attendance at our Dist 8 Service Workshop 2/26/11. Also went to District 9's District Meeting to present information on Beginners Meetings. Also, 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.

Now a little summation about the Web site usage for the month on Jan We had 46,768 hits from 1,314 unique sites like Google 540, Yahoo 69, MS Bling 93, AOL 2 and others. The busiest day was Jan 11 with 1999 hits, busiest weekday was Tuesdays. Usage for the month on Feb We had 36017 hits from 1,042 unique sites like Google 371, Yahoo 59, MS Bling 71, AOL 1 and others. The busiest day was Feb 17 with 2519 hits, busiest weekday was Thursdays.

Things we discussed:

1. There was a slow down at the District 3 website, less hits to the site.
2. The combined meeting locator for Area's 35 & 36 has some incorrect addresses for meetings. It was mentioned that one wrong address brought someone to an old one lane dirt logging road. Corrections were corrected. If you notice a wrong address please let us know.
3. Online group registration - How to make it easy to do. There is a free way to do it on our current server. Another is having to buy some Adobe Software somewhere in the \$350 to \$650 range. Also, adding a link to the GSO site registration. The dilemma is trying to find the best and easiest way to get the information to everyone our Group Records Secretary, GSO and to the webmaster and make it easy to fill out.
4. District pages on the Web site. Very few Districts take advantage of their use. One has a link to their own Web site and few others have their District Meeting location and times along with a hot line phone number. District 7 is now going to pursue placing information on their district page.
5. Phone Numbers on the Web site. There was discussion on the importance of having contact phone numbers for people to call us and talk.
6. Making the Web site more printer friendly for printing meetings from the meeting locator pages.
7. Look into making the District geographical boundary maps uniform on line, in the Northern Light and where ever we have them listed.

Thank you for sending me to the North West Regional Service Conference at the Grand View Lodge. I heard a lot of different viewpoints about the upcoming agenda items. Went to two breakout sessions Pi & Corrections. Wish I would have went to publications breakout session after the fact I found out there was some discussion about Web publishing. The best though was the side conversations with people. One in particular was Saturday night after the proceedings were done we made a bonfire. Out from another room came a gentleman from Iowa. We ended up talking about problems their web site is experiencing. Mostly event and flier posting on their web site. I explained the criteria our area uses. Also had four examples of recent fliers and events that either I could not post or requested that they change their flier to meet our criteria. The other people I meet at the conference were wonderful and it was great to put a faces to some of the emails I get. Because Area35 is a dynamic entity not stagnant. We can only be as good as the information given us and passed between us all.

Thanks for allowing me to serve as your Area35 Webmaster
Steven L.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

Northern Light

This issue comes right after our Area - 35 had the honor of hosting the WCRAASC in Nisswa, MN. Which was less than a week after our last Area Committee meeting in Aitkin. I mention this because with the deadline for this issue so close to the Regional Conference there was not much time for Committee Chairs and Officers to think out and write as much about the Regional as they would have liked. That does not mean that they will not bring what they have learned from going over the Agenda items with the present and past Trustees, Delegates, Officers and Chairs in many others in attendance from the many Areas in our Region.

I think the money is well spent for the Area, Districts and Groups to send representatives to these Regional events because of the wealth of knowledge shared between us and the head start you get from discussing the Agenda.

I appreciated seeing our trusted servants in Area 35 doing so much to make this Regional happen. I will not name any one in particular because I respect their anonymity. But regardless it is still good to know you are appreciated and I do each one who participated.

I enjoyed the Newsletter breakout session and shared what I could of how we operate and how we got to how we do what we and why. One person ask why our Newsletter looks so much like Area 36's. Before I could say much someone said well they are from the same state and that seemed to be perfect.

In this issue you will want to check closely in Brad's report - Archivist, he asked a question last issue that I am sure you were waiting with bated breath to here the answer to " I know I was" that he answers in this one on page 10.

I added an article starting on **page 20** entitled, **Sober For Thirty Years** by Jim B. "alcoholic number four". Along with this are some writings he compiled written by Bill and Bob in question and answer form about **The Right of Appeal** and **Why the General Service Conference** on page 21.

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!

With Love and 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

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

Past Delegates in attendance were recognized: JoAnne N. (Panel 58), Jerry S. (Panel 56), Charlie C. (Panel 54), Tom A. (Panel 50), Suzie A. (Panel 48), and Bill P. (Panel 46)

Additions/Corrections to the Agenda:

* Breakout Session on Agenda Items, Delegates Resume, and Meeting List for Area 35 Website

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

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE-Jon C.

It is getting to be a busy time with the 2011 General Service Conference Final Agenda out, the WCRAASC next weekend, the Spring Assembly and the General Service Conference. First, I would like to share information about the 2011 final agenda with background. I copied and mailed 44 discs to officers, chairs, DCM's and past delegates. Each mailing for the CD, including the mailer and postage, cost \$1.80, totaling \$79.20. I was also asked by service members of our area to print ten hard copies of the agenda. Each copy cost \$34.29, totaling \$342.90. I also printed 150 final agendas at a cost of \$40.50. The total expense to provide 2011 final agenda information for our Area was \$462.60. I have made extra discs for anyone who would like a copy. I would like to report on our publication and gross sales of our conference approved literature. As of 11/30/10, the total distribution of all books was down 24.2%. Non A.A. purchases represented 15% of the total units distributed, compared to 30.6% in 2009. Through November, 816,000 units of all versions of the Big Book was distributed compared to 1, 152,781 units in 2009. The gross sales for the eleven-month period were \$11,487,557, which was 13% below budget. Gross profit from literature sales was down 9.6% from 2009. After expenses, we had a positive year-end balance of \$1,320,000. The reserve fund balance is \$11,868,427, which represents a nine months of operating expenses. It takes roughly \$1 million to make a shift. The pension fund unfounded liability is approximately \$5,900,000. Contributions for 2010 were \$6,409,285, which was 1.8% higher than 2009. On-line contributions were \$82,750, with \$24,000 contributed in December. At the end of 2010, the Grapevine had an actual loss of \$394,000. Draw downs from the reserve fund in 2010 were \$50,000, \$138,000, and \$100,000, with an anticipated draw down of \$100,000 by the end of February 2011. Total income to the Grapevine is about 2.4 million, while total expenses are 2.2 million. It is not clear how the income and drawdown's are more than the expenses of \$200,000. The Grapevine circulation has dropped by 9% in 2010. Audio Grapevine sales dropped 23% and the digital archive dropped 26% from last year. The Grapevine has lost approximately \$1.5 million in the last fifteen years, as only 6% of A.A. members in the U.S. and Canada subscribe. I have spoken to Ken, our WCR trustee and the Chairman of the Grapevine Board about the surveys. I shared that many actions took place before the surveys were compiled and the data summarized. I was told that the Grapevine Board had to move quickly to the save the magazine. The information gathered from the surveys will be forwarded to the conference committee on the Grapevine. The Grapevine has also terminated four employees to reduce expenses. One was hired by the A.A.W.S., and the other three were let go. I believe the Grapevine Board is doing all they can to save the magazine. We have a new editor/publisher who has saved another magazine prior to coming to this Board. The majority of the members across the U.S. and Canada have made it clear that we need the Grapevine; however, only 6% subscribe to it. Do you see something wrong with this picture? I talked to Rick Walker, staff coordinator/website services about the hiring of an additional staff member. Due to the increasing demands on the current staff, there is a need. There are much more correspondences due to E-Tech, for example. There are no specific duties for this additional staff person, and he/she will rotate every two years as all staff members do. I have forwarded an email from Rick to anyone that is interested. I have received my loving invitation to serve as moderator for the 2011 conference workshop. The topic is "How to increase participation in A.A.-striving for self-support in all affairs." For those of you unfamiliar with this, the second year delegates all get invitations to serve at their last conference in some capacity. It will convene from 9-11 am on Wednesday, May 4th. Last but not least, I am sure you are all aware of our WCRAASC held in Nisswa 3/4 -3/6. We are the host area for this event and will need volunteers from our area. This will be an excellent opportunity to observe and participate. We have the privilege of hosting this conference once every eight years. It won't be any closer to travel for the next seven years, so please register and reserve rooms. It is not too late to do so, and I hope to see you all there. I must pass on information about our two proposals submitted to the General Service Conference. Our first proposal regarding daily reflections of members being included in the Grapevine resulted in no action being taken by the Board, as they will be considering many content possibilities to meet fellowship's needs. Our next proposal involved the addition of a footnote to the book, "Dr. Bob and the Good Old-timers", indicating that he did not compromise his anonymity and did not sign or author the article titled, "I Saw Religion Remake a Drunkard". The Trustee's Committee on literature took no action. They agreed that the text in the book describes one individual's recollection and that the information does not contradict the text in the book. Information and documentation was shared with the Archives Dept. to assist in future research on the subject. I have made copies for District 13 DCM to bring back to their groups. I think I have done enough rambling for now. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE- Jim K.-

Thanks for this continued opportunity to serve Area 35. I want to thank all who attended and participated in this year's Area 35 Service Workshop in Virginia. I apologize but I do not have a report from the weekend as I made a mistake in what report I sent to be copied. A full report will be available at the West Central Regional Service Conference as well as the upcoming Spring Assembly in Tower. We are in the process of setting up our Zonal Forums for this year. They will be held in Zones 2 and 4. I will be in contact with the DCMs from those zones and we will be setting those up with fliers available at the Spring Assembly. I will not be attending the WCRAASC until Sunday due to a coaching commitment Friday and Saturday. I have received all of the background information and will be looking over all of the information prior to the Spring Assembly. I will also be going through the information with other AA members as well as my home group prior to the Spring Assembly. Finally I had a chance to visit the District 7 meeting in February and very much enjoyed being present. It is always a highlight to be able to get out and visit various districts. I have now had the chance to attend 4 different district meetings throughout the area and hope to visit more this rotation. Thanks again for this opportunity to serve and I look forward to seeing you all at the Spring Assembly in April.

CHAIR-Michael (Jake) J.-

Hi everyone, I hope you're enjoying what has seemed to be a long winter. It's the time when everything starts to change. Spring comes and we get busy with meetings, workshops, conferences, and assemblies. These are all done to carry our life giving message to the alcoholics out there suffering. I enjoyed the workshop in January finding the topics and presentations enjoying and stimulating. It was nice to see presenters using our literature and giving information with enthusiasm. I would still like to see more sharing from the floor but what we did have was great experience. Conley B. Southwest Regional Trustee did a great job sharing on the relationship between our steps, traditions, and concepts. He also did a fine job of sharing his own personal story. It was sad to see so many people that could only come up to present and then had to leave but we are but we are glad that people show up. Maybe it is something we have to look at in the future. Is it getting to be too hard for people to spend a full weekend at an assembly or workshop? What do our district and GSRs want? It is always good to look at things and find out what is working or not and why. I have been in contact with a few area chairs from different states and we share on things like special needs and how areas handle their finances concerning area events. It is pretty neat being able to share back and forth with others that are looking for or have experience in other areas. I recently attended a men's spiritual retreat in South Dakota and found it as a great way to refill for this upcoming year. I am looking forward to the Spring Assembly and hope we can spend some quality time giving Jon the info he needs from us to carry to New York. Let's make this year one that will bring the joy of service and our passion to those we serve so they will want to raise their hand and say I'm willing to serve. Thanks for allowing me to serve.

(Continued from page 13)

SECRETARY- Heidi R.-

Reports from the February Committee Meeting are due to me by March 1st. I am planning to send one reminder email but if I do not get the report, it may not get in the minutes. We have 2 new groups to Area 35: A New Foundation Group, International Falls, District 8 and Women's Group, Hibbing, District 9. Please give me your email address if you would like to receive the minutes and flyers from the Area. I can also mail you a copy of the Area 35 minutes if you do not have email. The minutes from all Area Committee Meetings and Assemblies can also be found in the Northern Light. I will be attending the West Central Regional AA Service Conference March 3-6th and am looking forward to it. I always learn tons of great information. I will be taking notes during the delegates and past delegates meeting on Thursday and Friday. The Action Booklet Committee has been at a standstill for awhile due to the WCRAASC. I have been able to get the Area 35 Service Guidelines from the Area Chair to be added to the Action Booklet. I am planning to meet with the committee at the Spring Assembly. If anyone has suggestions, ideas, or wants to be on the committee please see me. Thanks for the opportunity to be of service to Area 35.

TREASURER- Sarah K.-

There are two periods I will be reporting on: Period 7 which ran from Dec. 3-Dec. 31 and Period I of 2011, which ran from Jan. 1, 2011 to Feb. 23, 2011. I will be starting with the period 7 reports. There are, as usual, three main reports to review for period 7: Profit and Loss, Group Contributions listing, and Detailed Expenditures. Our income for Period 7 (Dec. 3-Dec. 31) totaled \$1,591.67, the breakdown is as follows: \$1,561.67 in group contributions and \$24 in birthday contributions. Total expenses for period 7 (Dec. 3-Dec. 31) were \$1636.90, a breakdown of these expenses can be found on the Period 7 Detailed Expenditures and Budgets report. Our resulting equities total \$19,319.90. This includes our \$6,000 prudent reserve. At the end of 2010, the Districts with highest contributions to the Area: the groups of District 13 are #1 with \$5,172.35, and the groups of District 12 are #2 with \$3,373.87 - AMAZING! Whatever your districts and groups are doing to encourage this level of support, great job and keep it up! The Districts with the highest birthday contributions: the groups of District 7 are #1 with \$179 in birthday contributions, a very close second are the groups of District 3 with \$171 and in third are the groups of District 12 with \$166. This is so WONDERFUL! WE clearly have some very grateful AA members! A huge thank you to you all! Income for Period 1 (Jan. 1-Feb. 23, 2011) totaled \$5,322.87, the breakdown is as follows: \$3,775.11 in group contributions, \$61 in birthday contributions, \$40 in anonymous contributions, \$1050 from our Service Conference registration, \$375 from Service Conference coffee sales, \$7.43 in "Share the Love" buckets, and \$14.33 in interest. Expenses for Period 1 (Jan. 1-Feb. 23, 2011) totaled \$3,725.37, a detailed breakdown of these expenses can be found on the Period 1 Detailed Expenditures and Budgets report. So far in the New Year, leading in contributions to the Area are the groups of District 8 with \$559.15, and a close second are the groups of District 12 with \$516. That is amazing to have this much support from groups already this year! And some very grateful individuals can be found at the Saturday Night Young people's group in District 13 who are leading the birthday contribution charge with \$27 so far this year. A few things I feel I should point out, the \$40 anonymous contribution I received was an envelope addressed to Area 35 containing \$40 in cash. There was no name on the envelope. I didn't know what to do with it, so I deposited it in the Area account. If the area feels they would like something else done with this money, please let me know by presenting your opinions to your DCM or bringing it up at the assembly. Also, the Literature and Grapevine expenses for period 1 were higher than normal because each requested \$500 to start a literature purchasing fund so they can order literature for Area events (like the WCRAASC) and then they don't have to use their personal accounts. If you ever have questions about any of the expense or income amounts, please do not hesitate to contact me or the respective chairperson. Thank you for allowing me to be of service in a position where I am continually given the opportunity to learn and grow! Finally, please send all contributions with group name and numbers on them to Area 35, PO Box 328, Brainerd, MN 56401.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS

LITERATURE-Bob K. – Thanks you to those that helped at the January workshop. It's a great help. I got a response from Valerie O'Neill Publication Director AAWS about the large print AA COMES OF AGE and they are taking no action. They thought that the new digital format that's under development may cover some of the needs expressed without the need to introduce a new printed format. Maybe the area needs to make a proposal requesting the large print version of AA COMES OF AGE? AAWS Committee on E-Technology approved the proposal for the sale of LITERATURE IN DIGITAL FORMAT (THE BIG BOOK AND 12X12) available for sale by late summer. This investment is about \$400,000 incurred over a 2 year period. District reports- District 13 is looking for new chair. District 12 is trying to keep literature in supply since the other committees are distributing a lot of literature in there district. District 5 is trying to keep BIG BOOKS in the libraries. District 18 is ordering literature for the groups. District 3 is getting groups together to order literature to get the quantity discount. District 8 is restocking there literature. District 3 and 18 want to have a Literature/ Grapevine workshop. We have a date and place which is April 9th at Perham Alano Club and sounds like grilling and eating at 12:00 and workshop starting at 1:00pm. We will be talking about--How to make an order, what's free, recovery, unity, and service pamphlets. Grapevine its more than casual reading and what's available Thanks again.

DISTRICT 8- Randy A. – We held our last district meeting on February 8th in Virginia, MN. We had 17 GSRs and group represented with 37 in attendance. We had an election for our Alternate Grapevine/Literature position. Dean M. was elected by majority vote. We had two nominations selected. We will be having our District 18 Agenda Items meeting on March 12th hosted by the Pike Sandy Group in Pike Town Hall. We also had our District Workshop on February 26th in Virginia with around 50 in attendance. There were a lot of districts in attendance. There were a lot of district participation and questions/answer sessions. We also hosted an Open Speaker Meeting during the evening that was well attended. Our GSR from the Babbitt Tuesday Night Group was our guest speaker. Our Grapevine/Literature Chair, Robin M. and our Archives Chair, Richard J. set up our district displays. We currently have 2 new "groups" and GSRs to our district: Little Fork Pine-View 24 Hour Group and International Falls New Foundation Group. All our district commitments for corrections and treatment speaker commitments are being full-filled. Our PI/ CPC Chair, Charles, attended the MN Juveniles Officer Association in Duluth, MN with Cook Big Book GSR Rolene R. He reported there were 173 in attendance in which many of them had questions and he referred them to the appropriate pamphlets. Charles and Steve L. also attended a District 9 meeting and gave a presentation on to formulate a district meeting. Finally, the district elected to financially support District 8 DCM to the WCRAASC in Nisswa with a report back. Yours in service.

DISTRICT 12- Jana M. – We will be having a special district meeting for all GSRs Thursday, March 3rd. We will be going over the background information on the agenda items together. Corrections: Stan is back and feeling better. He is mailing packets of literature, and a questionnaire to 9 facilities. Stan has set-up a P.O. Box for anonymity and security reasons. He reported that all facilities have AA meetings available. CPC: The Juvenile Corrections Convention went well. This was joint participation wit both Districts 8 and 9. Candy bars were a big hit. Literature was taken. Officers were very interested in the fact that AA is self-supporting and not a burden on the public's resources. They got 7 addresses for About AA Newsletter. Treatment: Sarah is getting together with Stan to deliver literature with his packets. Also, we approved 8 Big Books to be given to the Douglas County Jail meeting. Ken and Adam from the North Shore came to represent the meetings up there. A representative from Duluth Young People in AA came to the District to tell us about a Duluth ICYPAA committee. They will be having elections for committee chairs on March 10th, at the Duluth Alano Club at 6:00pm. Anyone is welcome. You don't have to be young to be on the committee. They also put in a bid for the State MNYPAA conference to be held in Duluth.

TREATMENT- Robert (Butch) R. – We met as a committee and shared what each district is doing to take meetings into the various Treatment Facilities. All are very busy and are making their commitments. We must remember that we are only responsible for the effort not the outcome. The Bridging the Gap Temporary Contact Program seems to be going well. The important thing here is communication. I received contact requests from the Help Desk in MNPLS and forward them. If the ball is dropped somewhere along the line we fail to give that individual the opportunity to find sobriety. I am looking forward to the WCRAASC and to the sharing as well as the fellowship that takes place. See you there.

DISTRICT 9- Chuck R. – (Not Present, Report given by Gary W., GSR)

District 9 has been doing quite well. The district's treasurer is doing an outstanding job with written reports and copies for all GSRs. Treatment and Corrections Chairs are fulfilling all commitments. Other district chairs are doing well. Support troops overseas, the National Guard from Northern Minnesota (Area 35) to be deployed this summer. If you know anyone who is in the Guard and needs help finding contacts let me know.

DISTRICT 15- Sandy H. – We hope you are all staying warm!! We presented at the Area Workshop in January, which I heard was a lot of fun, but not so much on the drive there and back. I was at work Saturday, due to machinery malfunction on Friday evening. District 15 is getting everything in place for our Stearns County Roundup! Which the Roundup does not fall the same weekend as the Spring Assembly, so come one come all. We have a beautiful young lady as our AA speaker, which some of you might know as District 5 DCM, Rita, we all look forward to hear-

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

ing her experience, strength, and hope. The Roundup is at the Landing Supper Club in St. Anna, MN call Nick V. for directions. Please grab a flyer and come our way for a night of fun and fellowship. We are reserving an unmanned booth for the Stearns County Fair at the end of July. We have a new literature chair person and are spreading the word about trying to get some new people in office this year. We also do an Area 35 Happenings Flyer we send out every month with our District New Letter. We hope to see everyone at the Stearns County Roundup March 26, 2011. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

PUBLIC INFORMATION-Roger R –Ten people attended the PI/CPC breakout session this morning representing Districts: 13, 8, 4, 18, 5, 11, 6, and 21. We discussed anonymity breaks via internet/social media. As a committee we would like to express a grave concern about these tradition breaches. As DCM's will soon be reporting details on PI activity in their districts, a summary of their actions follows. Several districts are reprinting meeting schedules and continuing their beginners meetings. Districts are also active in running 2417- phone assistance lines. Getting AA information out to schools and libraries remains a priority for several districts. We also discussed getting AA information to medical doctors and clinics. I look forward to seeing many of you at the March 4-6, 2011 WCRAASC in Nisswa, MN. I anticipate learning a lot about the PI Agenda Items to be discussed/ considered for the 61st General Service Conference. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service to Area 35.

DISTRICT 7- Mark N. - District 7 has been getting good turnout at its meetings and there seems to be growing interest in District service work. At our last meeting I recapped some of the things we accomplished in the previous year such as finding and moving to a new location for our District meetings, a redesign and printing of our meeting schedules, a CPC luncheon, our annual spring picnic, an Archives workshop, and a district News letter. We have kept the Central Lakes phone line active and spent time in meetings throughout the district. Some of the things we are looking forward to working on this coming year are first and foremost the West Central Regional Service Conference, the perusing of the General Service Conference Agenda, thinking about and planning for the upcoming rotation in December, and making a change from our existing phone situation to a district owned cell phone. This will affect a change to the Area 35 web page, meeting list, specifically, printable on as few pieces of paper as possible. We plan on updating the District's page on the Area 35 website, the summer picnic, a fall CPC luncheon, and maybe a district web page. That's just some of the things we'll be looking forward to this last year of our rotation.

DISTRICT 11- Gary H. – (Not Present, Report given by Doug N.)- District 11 has around 5 to 6 different jails that have meeting being done. We are keeping our commitment with the prison. At Willow River we have went from having one meeting a week to having two meetings a week. Many volunteers are helping out at Willow River; however we are still in need of more volunteers at some of the other jails in District 11. The population is down in our district which could be due to the weather.

GROUP RECORDS-Laurie R. – Hi everyone, I have been busy with school, but I also continue to work on updating group information and passing that info on to Steve our Area 35 Webmaster. I also continue to update the joint area 35/36 meeting website – aameetinglocator.org. Just a reminder for everyone, to be on the websites, your group has to be registered with GSO and be active. To be considered active, you need to have one meeting time and either a GSR or primary contact. I have also been responding to emails and phone calls regarding requests for information. I just mailed the latest issue of the Northern Light on Feb. 18th, so hopefully everyone has received their copy. If you would like a flyer inserted into the Northern Light, I need 600 of them and a check for \$75.00 made out to postmaster given to me as well. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

NORTHERN LIGHT-Daniel R.- Our action committee was good this morning, we talked mostly about the Area 35 website and the updates Steve and Laurie were making regularly. I was glad to see the District 3 Webmaster and the new District Web Chair in attendance and looking for direction. We also had a GSR from District 7 looking for support. I was glad to see the Northern Light was in my mail box early this time, I think we have a system that works now. If you look at this issue you will see the deadline is March 3rd. I think this will give us plenty of time to get everything done right and in time. I hope you read this one, especially the articles, I think we have some good ones. I would suggest you read the whole thing all the way through at least once so you know where everything is in case someone asks you will know where to look. I enjoyed the workshop this year and think Jim did a great job keeping things going. I wonder if we might be able to do it all in one day, but really most of the time most of us have to get there by Friday anyway and have to leave on Sunday. I am looking forward to going to the Regional Conference this next week, the last one I went to I learned a lot more about the agenda than I would have not going for sure. I wish every GRS could go it would help a lot with the voting in the groups and at assembly. I will send this to Heidi by email so she can copy and paste it instead retyping it.

DISTRICT 2- Rodney P.- Greetings from District 2, we held our last district meeting January 9th with 14 in attendance. It was a very productive meeting. Our district had two willing members step up for service positions. We were able to fill the Alternate DCM position, Kim B. was voted in to fill the rest of this rotation. Tom B. was elected as the literature chair. I was also in contact with Bryant W. who will stand as the corrections chair upon election at our March meeting. This will mean all the elected positions are filled, without anyone wearing two caps. Our District 2 North Star Roundup was a success. The speakers were great and the fellowship was wonderful. I would like to invite anyone passing through to stop in for a cup of coffee and you might find a meeting.

DISTRICT 16- Mary S. – Everything is going along well in District 16. We have good attendance at our district meeting. Because our GSRs are fairly new and do not understand how agenda topics affect their home group, we will meet and review agenda items and how a group GSR can explain this to their home groups at our next district meeting. We also have some flyers on the back table which have dates and times for upcoming events in District 16. One is Step 6 and 7 with Roger and Dennis, Iron Range Get Together and Bill and Lois Weekend at Camp Hiawatha in July. We just printed up new District 16 Directories, too. Wednesday Noon Woman's AA Group purchased 11 Big Books from the district. They are planning to use these books rather than non-conference approved literature at their noon meeting.

CORRECTIONS- Kelly D. – We met this morning with 10 in attendance with representation from Districts 5, 13, 21, 9, 8, 3, 7, and 16. Arden and Dennis from District 7 reported that they now have enough volunteers to go in once a week to the Moose Lake Men's Sex Offender Program which was great news to hear. They said that they are always still looking for more volunteers and that the program there will now allow females to volunteer also. Arden also reported that he has been going into Sandstone Prison once a month and hopes to be able to go in more often but it has been difficult with communication with the change of warden's and staff not getting back to him. This was also good news since the information most of us received was that we could no longer go into Sandstone. Jeff from District 13 reported that they have not gone into St. Cloud prison for the last three weeks due to staffing and scheduling issues with the prison but their volunteers are ready to go in again when the prison takes care of the problem. Gary from District 9 reported that they are meeting their responsibilities and Dennis from District 16 reported that they are looking for a Correction Chair for their District. Jim from District 3 reported that their responsibilities are being met and Jerry from District 8 reported theirs are also. He reported that they had their service workshop yesterday and does have volunteers willing to go into Mesabi Academy. He also reported that 2 groups from District 14 joined their District and volunteers are going into International Falls and Little Fork. Skip from District 5 reported that they now have 13 volunteers for Sherburne County but are still looking for more including the women. He reported that the same women have been going in for years. I received an email from Stan in District 12 that stated they have been going into the Duluth prison again but still have difficulty getting their volunteers approved in a timely manner. I would like to again thank everyone for their commitment to be of service and the many that volunteer to go into our Correctional Facilities to carry AA's message to the still suffering alcoholic. Thank you for the opportunity I have been given also to serve.

DISTRICT 3- Jim S. - District 3 is hosting its first ever District 3 Roundup. The dates will be 8th, 9th and 10th of July. Flyers will be ready shortly and posted to district 3's website as well as emailed and mailed out to everyone. District positions open are Treasurer, Corrections, Treatment and Round Robin. We hope to have these filled quickly and competently. Donations to the district are plenty ample to meet our financial needs. The district has decided to purchase a Netbook, along with Xcel and Quicken for our treasurer to move from pencil and paper to a more structured form of reporting. We had a question come up from a meeting regarding a translator for a gentleman attending a group in Detroit Lakes. I mass emailed everyone I had an address for at the district and Area. Thanks for all the responses and some very good suggestions came out of those replies. I received a copy of the agenda items and will email them out to all district members to discuss at our next meeting March 20th.

DISTRICT 4- Dee Dee B.- (Not Present, Report brought and read by Jeff C.)- Hello from District 4. First off I want to thank Jeff C for agreeing to come to this meeting and give this report. I am in Arizona where I hopefully won't find any snow! Our District meetings are usually the second Saturday of each month but for March it will be the third Saturday on March 19th in Morris. On January 8th we worked on a District Inventory with the help of Tim C. Our Secretary Sharon S. typed out the answers and we asked all the GSRs to share this at their meetings. We found this in-

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ventory beneficial and it showed us areas we can improve upon especially reaching the still suffering alcoholic. This was followed by our District meeting and we had 17 in attendance. Donita S agreed to be the Corrections Co-Chair. We received a request for a new jail meeting on Sunday evenings in Alexandria and Donita is going to check on this. I want to thank District 4 for allowing me to attend the January Workshop. Jim T and Dee Dee presented on "The Role of the DCM." There was a lot of good fellowship and information shared. On February 8th before our regular District meeting the PI/CPC committee met. PI/CPC Chair Jeff C has created a District 4 website with updated meeting lists and information. He has also implemented a 24-hour helpline and handed out tear-sheets to post in public places. He is handling the phone the first month and then will pass this on at the next District meeting along with a cheat sheet for the volunteer. He asked people to help spread the word. At the February District meeting we had 3 new GSRS which is awesome. Our meetings seem to be growing according to our GSR reports. The Wheaton meeting has been moved to Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the library. Jeff is also taking meetings into the Traverse County Jail on Tuesdays. Literature Chair Mike B is going to see about a table with AA Literature at the Family Fun Fest in April. Secretary Sharon S is going to work with Dee Dee on a DCM budget and getting the group records updated. Treasurer Stephen G will be working with 2 other members on an audit of the books. The March District meeting will begin earlier to review the agenda items. Thank you to everyone for all your help and allowing me to serve.

C.P.C-Doug N. - I first want to thank Area 35 for supporting me and allowing me to serve. Districts 8 CPC/PI phone line is going well and they were involved with the Juveniles Correction Convention with around 173 people in attendance. A quarterly report is sent out by GSO for professional such as ministers, lawyers, judges, and etc. This is a good thing to get the message out and could be brought back to districts. In the Grapevine it stated that there are around 19 million people still suffering from alcohol. Getting information out to professionals will help them direct the alcoholics to AA. District 18 had a CPC/PI luncheon that was well attended. District 13 is going to the St. Cloud VA with ongoing presence with their inpatient program. They also have ongoing cooperation with the MN National Guard and their drug and alcohol classes where they show the video "Hope" then explain what AA is and isn't. District 13 has a CPC Luncheon this Wednesday at St. Cloud State University with 16 professionals attending. In April District 13 along with Area 36 are doing a CPC luncheon for all Chaplains in the MN National Guard. District 7 has reprinted meeting schedules and plans to have a CPC luncheon in the fall. District 5 is also planning to have a CPC luncheon. I also want to thank the CPC Chair for District 12 for arranging to get a table at the MN Juvenile Officers Conference in Duluth.

DISTRICT 13- Steve J. – Hello from District 13, we meet the first Monday of every month at Salem Lutheran Church @ 90 Riverside Dr. St. Cloud@ 7:30pm. Gayle S. the DCM for district 13 resigned on 2/20/2011. She will be missed at District 13 the past 14 months. Gayle served the district with enthusiasm, wisdom, patience and most of all her time. Thank you for your service. PI is working on updating all of our meeting schedules before going to print in April. PI also changed our phone hot line to a new service called schedule forwarding. People that volunteer for the hotline do not need to log on any more. The service does it automatically. CPC had a luncheon at St. Cloud State. We had about 10 professionals from SCSU attend. It seemed to be very well received. CPC went to camp Ripley talked about what AA is and what AA isn't. Showed the hope video and two AA members shared their expertise strength and hope. The Corrections program was locked out of the SCCF for one month. Not due to anything we did they were having scheduling issues and personal issue they needed to deal with. We are now in the SCCF holding meetings again. May 11 we will be putting on a transitional fair at SCCF. The treatment committee is taking meeting into Children's home, Our house, Clara's House, Mental Health Center, Effective Living Center, Detox, VA Medical Center and passages.

DISTRICT 1- Lon G.-District 1 last met on February 13th at the Fertile Community Center. There were 10 in attendance and that number looks to be growing. The treasurer's report reflected an improving financial situation in our district. Our groups are reporting average attendance and yet contributions seem to be increasing. I attribute much of the increase to the excellent service work of our GSR's and participation within the district. Over the next couple meetings we will be evaluating our upcoming expenses for the remainder of this year and assure a solid reserve which has been needed for quite some time. Our meetings at the correction center in Crookston, continues to struggle. Our correction chair Moses and others remain committed to improving the attendance and are working very closely with the facility and their efforts are to be commended. The Wild Rice Roundup held this past January at the Shooting Star Casino was again a huge success with numbers in excess of 300 and continues to be a premier gathering not just in our district but in all of northwestern Minnesota. Hats off to all involved! Our 29th Annual Spring Fling is coming up Saturday, March 13th at the Community Center in Fertile. This is an event we share with AI-anon and we are expecting a nice turn out again this year! We will have workshops on Recovery and Services as well as catered dinner and of course great fellowship. I am very encouraged to see the increasing numbers of members getting interested in service work in our district and continually grateful to those who serve it so well!

GRAPEVINE-Dee K. – First thank you to all of the people who helped get the Grapevine literature in and out of the hotel at the January Workshop. We talked during our meeting this morning about taking care of the money going in and out when Grapevine literature is ordered and sold in Area 35. Currently, all of the money is going in and out of the Grapevine Chairs personal checking account which is a problem since we are a nonprofit organization and have no way to getting a tax ID number. We had 11 people in attendance. District 3 and 18 are looking to have a Literature and Grapevine Workshop. We have had orders for 3-Language of the Heart and 1-Rabbit Walked Into A Bar for today. We sold approximately \$300.00 of Grapevine materials at the January Workshop. I have to spend \$500.00 of Grapevine materials in order to receive a discount. I did place a \$620.00 order so we would have more on hand for the WCRAASC. Thank you for sending me to the January Service Workshop and I look forward to the WCRAASC and Spring Assembly.

DISTRICT 21- Carl B. – Greetings from District 21. I am very happy to report we have 3 members of District 21 present at the committee meeting; it's been a long time since we have had 3. We are maintaining our meeting lists and manning our hotline at all times. All the jails in the district have weekly meetings and current literature. Most of the positions in the district are filled. We sure could use an Alternate DCM, as well as a Grapevine chair, we'll see what happens. Our CPC/PI chair is working closely with the Beltrami county DWI court, making sure they know what AA is and isn't, and how it can help.

DISTRICT 18– Mike D. - Corrections Chair has had 2 volunteer applications for Todd County Jail be denied. The Chair is seeking more volunteers. CPC/PI is having a luncheon on April 15th at Lakewood Clinic in Staples, MN. We have a new Grapevine Chair. The Literature Chair ordered \$122.00 of literature for the district with it mostly being pamphlets. The literature has been distributed to the groups to be used in newcomers' packets. A Literature/ Grapevine workshop is being planned with no details yet. Archives Chair is currently establishing district history and the chair is interviewing old timers about "how it was." We are still searching for an Alternate DCM. I have visited 3 groups and working on getting non-registered groups to register. Also, I am working on updating district chairs and GSR information. I received a PowerPoint presentation from Mary in New York for CPC/ PI presentations.

WEBMASTER-Steve L. – It's only been through the grace of God and the program and fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous that I haven't found it necessary to take a drink. We had 8 in attendance from 4 districts which are Districts 2, 3, 7, 16 plus Group Records Secretary and Northern Light Editor and me. I was in attendance at our Dist 8 Service Workshop 2/26/11. Also went to District 9's District Meeting to present information on Beginners Meetings. Also, 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. Now a little summation about the Web site usage for the month on Jan We had 46,768 hits from 1,314 unique sites like Google 540, Yahoo 69, MS Bling 93, AOL 2 and others. The busiest day was Jan 11 with 1999 hits, busiest weekday was Tuesdays. Usage for the month on Feb We had 36017 hits from 1,042 unique sites like Google 371, Yahoo 59, MS Bling 71, AOL 1 and others. The busiest day was Feb 17 with 2519 hits, busiest weekday was Thursdays. Things we discussed: 1. There was a slow down at the District 3 website, less hits to the site. 2. The combined meeting locator for Area's 35 & 36 has some incorrect addresses for meetings. It was mentioned that one wrong address brought someone to an old one lane dirt logging road. Corrections were corrected. If you notice a wrong address, please let us know. 3. Online group registration - How to make it easy to do. There is a free way to do it on our current server. Another way is to buy some Adobe Software that costs somewhere in the \$350 to \$650 range. Also, adding a link to the GSO site registration. The dilemma is trying to find the best and easiest way to get the information to everyone our Group Records Secretary, GSO and to the webmaster and make it easy to fill out. 4. District pages on the Web site. Very few Districts take advantage of their use. One has a link to their own Web site and few others have their District Meeting location and times along with a hot line phone number. District 7 is now going to pursue placing information on their district page. 5. Phone Numbers on the Web site. There was discussion on the importance of having contact phone numbers for people to call us and talk. 6. Making the website more printer friendly for printing meetings from the meeting locator pages. 7. Look into making the District geographical boundary maps uniform on line, in the Northern Light and where ever we have them listed. Because Area 35 is a dynamic entity not stagnant, we can only be as good as the information given us and passed between us all. Thanks for allowing me to serve

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as your Area35 Webmaster.

ARCHIVES-Art A. – There were 5 people present at the Archives meeting with representation from District 2, 5, 8, 13, and 6. Brad presented an Archives Workshop in Brainerd with about 50 people in attendance. Art attend the Round-up in Thief River Falls, February 18 and 19th. District 6 is thinking of having an archives workshop sometime this summer. District 5 Archives Chair is busy putting group histories together. Rich from Virginia is working with past SCM's and committee chairs to collect part histories for AA groups. Workshops- Districts 21, 2, 1, and 3.

ARCHIVIST- Brad I. – Since December I gave a presentation in Brainerd for the District 7 Archives Workshop, which was well attended and well received. I recorded the Winter Workshop in Virginia and burned several CD's and put our guests talk on several thumb drives. Recent contributions to the Archives are 2 more P.A. speakers and speaker stands which I decided to try out today. These will eliminate the need to plug into a house P.A. for large rooms and the ensuing problems. I also have received the following items for the Archives display, May 1953 "Tab" magazine, November 1936 "American" magazine, 1938 "Saturday Evening Post," February 1946 "Pageant" magazine, April 1947 "Pageant" magazine, Winter 1946 "Woman's Life" magazine, August 1941 "The Woman" magazine, January 1935 "Physical Culture" magazine, a 1909 book "Saved by the Blood from a Drunkards Hell," 1912 book "Cutting it Out: How to get on the water wagon and stay there, 1940 book "Liquor Mad America," 1968 book "New Hope for Alcoholics: An LSD treatment for alcoholism." 1942 book "What Price Alcohol," and a 1957 novel "The Twelfth Step". The next scheduled Archives display is the Superior Round-up in April. I am willing to come to your district to give a history talk anytime you want me. Thanks for letting me be of service.

DISTRICT 5-Rita D. – Greetings from District 5. We have been busy within our District. On January 17th at our District meeting we did our Inventory and would like to thank Susie A. for coming to chair the meeting. We then met again on January 30th to go over the Inventory and will be continuing to work on suggestions and ideas. This was an awesome process with great participation from GSR's and Committee members. We currently have two positions open-Corrections and PI/CPC. I want to thank all within our District who have stepped up and are helping with the responsibilities of those positions. I was approached by a professional within our area regarding a luncheon for CPC and hopefully we will be working on doing one soon. We just finished another 8 week session with Sherburne County Orientation meetings. We received the disc of the 2011 Agenda items from Jon C. and I made copies and distributed them to GSR's and Committee members-THANKS Jon for getting them out early, we really appreciate this! We will start going thru the Agenda at our March District meeting and have a second date of March 27th set up to finish. I need to thank Skip for chairing our February District meeting as I was sick. We are looking forward to WCRAASC and as Hospitality chair for the Committee I want to thank all who have volunteered to bring goodies and let everyone know that more is still needed! I will be sending email reminders this week. Skip and I continue to get out to groups and visit them. We would like to welcome Beth a new GSR from the Into Action group and Betsy a new GSR from A Different Way group. YEAH!! These groups now have a voice in AA as a whole! Grateful to be of Service.

DISTRICT 6-Kathie G. – District 6 holds their district meeting the third Thursday of every month at Spring Lake Lutheran Church in North Branch, MN at 7:30 pm. At our February meeting there were nine people present. We have our Literature Chair position still open otherwise all other positions are filled with obligations being met. We finalized plans for an Agenda Item Meeting on March 19, 2010 at the Cambridge Hospital Foundation Room from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm. There will be coffee and treats provided and a potluck at noon. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. I'm looking forward to attending the WCRAASC and Spring Assembly. Yours in Service.

OLD BUSINESS WCRAASC-

We are the host for the WCRAASC this year. First, we are in need of people to help in the hospitality suite during the conference. You can either donate treats or money. See Rita if you are willing to help. We met during lunch today. Hotel rooms at Grand View Lodge are still available for the same price as on the flyer even though we are past the deadline. Currently, we have 150 people with hotel reservations and usually we have around 300 people in attendance at these events. Part of this could be due to the problems people were having with hotel reservations. We hope to see everyone in this room at the conference. Attending the conference now can give you a taste of service work and learning about the Agenda Items. The WCRAASC only comes to Area 35 every 8 years. Steve the new DCM for District 13 has been willing to step in for Gayle the DCM from District 13 who had to step down from her position as timer for the conference. He will be looking for people to volunteer as timer during the conference. Grand View Lodge will be providing breakfast, lunch, and dinner for a set price. The hospitality suite will be serving items such as coffee, cookies, bars, veggie trays, chips, dip, and fruit. After the WCRAASC is over a meeting has been set up for Sunday just for anyone who wants to get together and talk as a Region. We will be having an ice cream social on Friday Night after we close the conference for the night.

FINANCIAL OVERSITE COMMITTEE -

We met as a Committee January 15th at the Area Workshop and also today February 27th. We had 5 committee members in attendance at both meetings. We reviewed the reconciliation report for period 7 (December 3rd thru December 31st). We reviewed checks and balances, deposits and expenditures. We also did an overview of detailed expenditures and budgets for period to date (PTD) and year to date (YTD) analysis. We agreed that the total balance for deposits have matched accordingly with bank statements. We the members of the Financial Oversight Committee have concluded these statements and reports for Period 7 thru 1 to be concise, accurate, and thorough. We the members of the committee also commend the Area 35 Treasurer on a job well done for her accuracy, prudence, and enthusiasm in maintaining checks and balances for the Area.

SPRING ASSEMBLY-

The Spring Assembly is ready to go for April 2nd and 3rd, 2011 at Fortune Bay Resort and Casino in Tower, MN. Randy A., DCM for District 8, is getting volunteers together for the registration table and coffee table.

AREA 35 INVENTORY-

The Area 35 Chair has asked 4 people (Roger, Rita, Mike and Kathy) to be on the committee that looks over the Area 35 Inventory. However, he has not gotten the committee to meet. The committee hopes to have met and developed something to present at the Spring Assembly.

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NACTIVE DISTRICTS-

The Area 35 Secretary went through the information from the 2010 December Committee Meeting. At the December Committee Meeting the subject was brought up and discussed on how we could help get the dark district back involved with Area 35. Many people at the December Committee Meeting were unsure of what districts were inactive or dissolved into another district of Area 35. A member of a group in Nisswa has been trying to get something together in District 17. District 17 has a great situation because they have active districts all around them that can help get something going. The DCM from District 8 brought up the fact that they have had several groups from District 14 come into their district. District 14 does seem to be showing some interest in getting involved. In District 7 they have 5 to 6 GSRs attending their meeting from District 17. A suggestion was that the Delegate or Alternate Delegate set up a meeting with GSRs in District 17. The Area 35 Chair has been in contact with an AA member in District 14 on what towns are in District 14. The Chair has been in contact with the Archivist but no real data shows what towns are in District 14. The AA member from District 14 does seem interested in getting something going. The Area Chair is willing to go to the districts and help them get something going. The Group Records Secretary is planning to meet with Dan from District 17 during the WCRAASC and look on FNV to see how many groups are in District 17. In the past Area 35 helped District 14 by informing them about what the district does but did not participate in any elections. We should only help and inform them if that is what they want. The Area 35 Chair is planning to contact Dan from District 17 and Margie from District 14 to see what we can do to help.

NEW BUSINESS

STATE FAIR- ROGER R.

The total cost of the 2010n AA State Fair Booth, at the Minnesota State Fair, for booth rental and literature handed out was \$1,613.00. Area 35 staffed this booth for two days and contributed \$500.00 to the total cost. I would like to again thank all of our 2010 State Fair Volunteers for your service. All booth volunteers filled out a shift survey. This report is based upon their survey. The move of the AA booth to the Grandstand Building to the Education Building appears to have been a success. Approximately 100,000 people passed by the booth during our two days (first weekend) of staffing. This informed a lot of folks that A is still active in our state. A large amount of AA literature was passed out at the booth

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(see Area 35 State Fair Survey Results). Our literature plays an important role in carrying our message. Booth visitors included: professionals (15), AA members (58), friends and families of still suffering alcoholics (18), friends/family of AA members (13), young people (2), and still suffering alcoholics (3). Visitors included both females (80) and males (62). Visitors included all age groups. The greatest number of visitors was age 25-54 (36). This suggests we were successful in carrying our message at the Minnesota State Fair. Our message was carried both directly to the still suffering alcoholic and indirectly through friends/families of still suffering alcoholics and through professionals. I have attached the Area 35 State Fair Survey Results from which this report was generated. I have also attached Mary S's State Fair report form Area 36. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to be of service.

LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE PROPOSAL- BOB K.

This is not a proposal but more of a procedure Area 35 is going to need to start implementing. Currently, all money collected and checks are made out directly to the Grapevine and Literature Chairs. They are currently using their own bank accounts for the buying and selling of literature. This worked in the past but now is becoming a problem due to many different reasons such as having bounced checks which can affect your credit score and the IRS doing audits which these business transactions could be illegal. A few ideas were discussed at the Literature/ Grapevine Committee Meeting such as having the Literature and Grapevine Chair set up a separate bank account, or having all the money go through the Area 35 Treasury making it like a bank. We need to make the money from Grapevine and Literature accountable to Area 35 and not a personal responsibility. If this goes through the Treasury would we be setting up another job for the Treasurer. There would have to be some sort of record keeping procedure in place even if the money goes through the Area 35 Treasury. All of the checks collected for literature and Grapevine sales would have to be scanned and added somewhere to the financial reports. We also run into the problem with literature and Grapevine that the amount of money we spend is not the amount of money we get back due to items being taken, suffering alcoholics needing literature, and etc. Grapevine and literature would show a loss in these cases and makes it difficult to be accountable for the money that goes in and out. Right now the way we are handling the money with Grapevine and Literature is not legal. Our current system is also keeping AA member from being of service as the Area 35 Grapevine or Literature Chair because they may not have money, a credit score, or a bank account. Suggestion: The Area 35 Treasurer would, at the beginning of a rotation, write a check to the Literature Chair and Grapevine Chair (ex \$1,000.00) for them to use and set-up a bank account. This would go under expenditures for the Grapevine and Literature on the treasury reports. Then on a periodic basis (quarterly, semi-annually, or annually) the Literature and Grapevine Chair would give a report of the money in the account and the money they have on hand in literature. That balance would then go under as a Literature or Grapevine expense. At the end of the rotation the money left over would go back to the Area 35 Treasurer. This money in the bank accounts can fall under the employee ID of Area 35 which will cause no legal problems and would not be a part of anyone's personal taxes. If we had for example \$1,000.00 in the bank accounts this should be enough money to cover any bounced checks we might get. The Literature and Grapevine Chair will have to be more accountable as to where the money is going such as literature that is stolen or damaged. Every two years we would have to set-up a new bank account for Grapevine and Literature which we all ready do for the Treasurer. Does this need to be brought back to the Groups or is this an Area concern that they need to address. A question was brought up that is the literature and Grapevine materials being inventoried at the end of each rotation.

A motion was made that at the beginning of the next rotation (2012/2013) \$1,000.00 would be given to the Literature and Grapevine Chairs to set up a bank account for purchases and expenses. The motion was seconded.

Discussion: The current Literature and Grapevine Chairs are willing to finish out their rotation with the current set up of using their own bank accounts. The money would be \$1,000.00 for each Chair and a separate bank account would be set up for each position. One question was if \$1,000.00 would be enough money? Currently, the Grapevine Chair has to spend at least \$500.00 to get a discount. Should the Literature and Grapevine Chairs get together and figure out how much money they would need at the beginning of their rotation. With this amount of discussion, one AA member would like to see this information brought back to districts and discussed for possible solutions. Should the Financial Oversight Committee look at this situation and discuss possible solutions? Doing an inventory of the literature and Grapevine can be a time consuming task but is necessary. We need to know what we have on hand before we can do anything else with this issue. Could the pamphlets be called expendable items and not be inventoried? One concern was that if we made pamphlets expendable items we could lose a lot of money because the money for each pamphlet adds up so we need an inventory of pamphlets.

The AA member who made the motion decided to withdraw her motion and suggested a committee be formed and information be presented at the Spring Assembly. The AA member that seconded the motion also withdrew her motion.

A committee was formed with the Literature and Grapevine Chairs to discuss this situation and come up with a plan. The topic will be added to the Agenda for the Spring Assembly.

EMAIL ETIQUETTE

This was brought to the Area 35 Chair that Area Officers and Chairs need to respond to emails in a reasonable amount of time. Also please use respect when talking to each other through email. If you are upset remember to practice the principals and think about what you are writing. Another concern brought up was not using email distribution lists of Area 35 members for personal notes or sayings. Please only use Area 35 emails for Area 35 business. Another suggestion was when you have a question that requires a lengthy response, could you please call the person instead. It can be hard to write everything down in an email.

BREAKOUT SESSION

The Area 35 Chair is going to create a list of suggestions that were made from the Officer Meeting for how to run the breakout sessions (Agenda Items) and give a report to the Area from the breakout session. Area Chairs should make sure to review all the background information on their agenda items, read about sharing sessions from the Service Manual, discuss important agenda items first in breakout session, and make sure to summaries the information from your breakout session. One Area member requested a copy of the list be given to the DCMs to use in their Districts. The Chair is going to put the information in the Northern Light.

DELEGATES RESUME

By the June Committee Meeting each district should have a recommendation for Panel 62 Delegate (2012/2013). Each DCM should take a resume for Delegate so we can get a variety of representation willing to run as Delegate for Area 35. The deadline for Delegate Resumes is the June Committee Meeting held on June 5th.

MEETING LIST FOR AREA 35 WEBSITE

District 7 requested that the meeting schedule listed on the Area 35 website have an easy printable version so you are not printing out, for example, 5 pages but 2 pages of meetings. The Area 35 Webmaster is going to look into making the meeting schedules a more printer friendly version. He is going to get into contact with some other area members to make this a possibility. Right now you can copy and past the information into a Word Document then reformat the information. We will look for an update on the progress of this request in the future.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- * WCRAASC- March 4th to 6th , 2011at 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
- * Area 35 Treatment/ Corrections Workshop- April 1st at Fortune Bay Resort and Casino in Tower, MN (starts at 7pm)
- * Spring Assembly- April 2nd and 3rd, 2011 at Fortune Bay Resort and Casino in Tower, MN
- * Superior Round-up – April 15th to 17th at Superior Fair Grounds Curling Club in Superior, WI
- * Iron Range Get-Together – April 29th to May 1st at Wendigo Lodge in Grand Rapids, MN
- * June Committee Meeting- June 5th starting at 9:00am at the Aitkin Alano Club in Aitkin, MN

CLOSED WITH THE LORDS PRAYER

WCRAASC Hospitality Report

EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

Hello everyone! Hope you all survived the busy weekend in Nisswa for the WCRAASC!! I know that I personally needed to get a few hours of extra sleep as I had a very busy weekend...late to bed & early to rise makes for a few very short nights of sleep.

I wanted to talk about the Hospitality room that we as Area 35 hosted during the Service Conference. There are so many people to thank for all the help. First, I want to thank Jenna K. for coming along specifically to work in the room. Without her I could not have done it, she was very busy making sure that the food was out during all breaks AND cleaning the room throughout the weekend. I could not have done this on my own and am very grateful for all her help!!

The Hospitality room was a success only because so many of you stepped up and brought so many goodies for the room to serve! Goodies included: COFFEE, cookies, bars, cakes, chips, veggies, dips, meat, cheese and buns!! Also, Saturday night Tom & Susie A. donated the left over ice cream to our room to serve...this was a huge success!! All who visited the room were very grateful that we were there and really enjoyed all the food. Area 35 received many compliments of gratitude for the room being available.

I first want to apologize to all who donated food and money to the Hospitality room. I wanted to send thank you cards however, in my haste I threw away the sign up sheets on Friday night thinking I did not need them. After going through a few garbage bags looking, I gave up...it was WAY to disgusting!! So, rather than naming some and possibly forgetting a name or two I decided to thank everyone with this article. FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART I THANK ALL GROUPS & INDIVIDUALS WHO CONTRIBUTED EITHER CASH OR FOOD TO THE HOSPITALITY ROOM!!! I truly appreciate the generosity of each and every one of you!! You all deserve a huge round of applause:) It would not have been a success without each and everyone of you!!

Last I just wanted everyone to know that the hospitality room was completely self supporting. We did not have to use any of the \$200.00 that the Area approved at the August 2010 Committee meeting. I will give a detailed dollar amount report at the Spring Assembly.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Rita D., DCM District 5/Hospitality Chair

DCM Sharing Session Report from the Area 35 January Workshop

Hello everyone! I want to apologize that this report wasn't in the last Northern Light. I honestly thought that the deadline was the day before the Workshop. Better late than never!! I would like to thank Mark N. for taking such great notes during our session!! We had 9 DCM's and 3 Alt. DCM's in attendance. We as a group discussed in detail DCM reports that are given at Committee Meetings and Assemblies as report lengths was discussed at our Inventory last Fall. We had great discussion on this with a lot of input. We all feel that reports are necessary as this is one way we learn from each other. Also, we discussed the 2 minutes given for reports and that even though it is short, that we should fashion our reports to fit in the allotted time. We did discuss and decide that Rita, Mark and Kathy would come up with some sort of format or guidelines for reports. We as DCM's would like all to know that we are taking our Inventory regarding our reports and we are working to keep to service and the 2 minute rule!! Another topic was a concern that not all GSR's know their duties/responsibilities. Some ideas we had were Workshops specifically geared towards service...GSR schools, etc. Also we discussed how it is a DCM's responsibility to meet regularly with GSR's and to help them wherever we can. Some of us meet monthly after or prior to a District meeting to discuss concerns they may have. Another idea was as a DCM we could meet with all new GSR's to go through their duties & responsibilities. Also, we feel that the buddy system for GSR's is an awesome tool & should be used! DCM's could buddy them up with seasoned GSR's and if a District has no seasoned GSR's then the Area could buddy them up during the GSR Orientation.

In Service, Rita D. DCM District 5 & Sharing Session Chair.

Northern Light Article**Sober For Thirty Years**

by Jim B.

A.A. Grapevine, November 1999

As noted in my story, "The Vicious Cycle," in the Big Book, I came into the Fellowship in New York in January 1938. At that time A.A. was just leaving the Oxford Group. There was one closed discussion meeting a week, at Bill's home in Brooklyn, - attendance six or eight men, with only three members who had been sober more than one year: Bill, Hank, and Fitz. This is about all that had been accomplished in the four years with the New York Oxford Group. During those early meetings at Bill's, they were flying blind, with no creed or procedure to guide them, though they did use quite a few of the Oxford sayings and the Oxford Absolutes. Since both Bill and Dr. Bob had had almost-overnight experiences, it was taken for granted that all who followed would have the same sort of experience. So the early meetings were quite religious, in both New York and Akron. There was always a Bible on hand, and the concept of God was all biblical.

Into this fairly peaceful picture came I, their first self-proclaimed atheist, completely against all religions and conventions. I was the captain of my own ship. (The only trouble was, my ship was completely disabled and rudderless.) So naturally I started fighting nearly all the things Bill and the others stood for, especially religion, the "God bit." But I did want to stay sober, and I did love the understanding Fellowship. So I became quite a problem to that early group, with my constant haranguing against all spiritual angles.

All of a sudden, the group became really worried. Here I had stayed sober five whole months while fighting everything the others stood for. I was now number four in "seniority." I found out later they had a prayer meeting on "what to do with Jim." The consensus seemed to have been that they hoped I would either leave town or get drunk.

That prayer must have been right on target, for I was suddenly taken drunk on a sales trip. This became the shock and the bottom I needed. At this time I was selling auto polish to jobbers for a company that Bill and Hank were sponsoring, and I was doing pretty well, too. But despite this, I was tired and completely isolated there in Boston. My fellow alcoholics really put the pressure on as I sobered up after four days of no relief, and for the first time I admitted I couldn't stay sober alone. My closed mind opened a bit. Those folks back in New York, the folks who believed, had stayed sober. And I hadn't. Since this episode I don't think I have ever argued with anyone else's beliefs. Who am I to say?

I finally crawled back to New York and was soon back into the fold. About this time, Bill and Hank were just beginning to write the A.A. Big Book. I do feel sure my experience was not in vain, for "God" was broadened to cover all types and creeds: "God as we understood Him."

I feel my spiritual growth over these past thirty years has been very gradual and steady. I have no desire to "graduate" from A.A.. I try to keep my memories green by staying active in A.A. - a couple of meetings weekly.

For the new agnostic or atheist just coming in, I will try to give very briefly my milestones in recovery.

1. The first power I found greater than myself was John Barleycorn.
2. The A.A. Fellowship became my Higher Power for the first two years.
3. Gradually, I came to believe that God and Good were synonymous and were found in all of us.
4. And I found that by meditating and trying to tune in on my better self for guidance and answers, I became more comfortable and steady.

J.B., San Diego, California

The below excerpts are from various talks and articles by and on Bill W., and were compiled by Jim B.

Question to Bill W. GSC, 1960—What purpose does the right of appeal serve?

Answer - There came to this country some hundred years ago a French Baron whose family and himself had been wracked by the French revolution, De Toqueville, and he was a worshipful admirer of democracy. And in those days democracy seemed to be mostly expressed in people's minds by votes of simple majorities. And he was a worshipful admirer of the spirit of democracy as expressed by the power of a majority to govern. But, said De Toqueville, a majority can be ignorant, it can be brutal, it can be tyrannous - and we have seen it. Therefore, unless you most carefully protect a minority, large or small, make sure that minority opinions are voiced, make sure that minorities have unusual rights, your democracy is never going to work and its spirit will die. This was De Toqueville's prediction and, considering today's times, is it strange that he is not widely read now?

So that is why in this Conference we try to get a unanimous consent while we can; this is why we say the Conference can mandate the Board of Trustees on a two - thirds vote. But we have said more here. We have said that any Delegate, any Trustee, any staff member, any service director - any board, committee or whatever - that wherever there is a minority, it shall always be the right of this minority to file a minority report so that their views are held up clearly. And if in the opinion of any such minority, even a minority of one, if the majority is about to hastily or angrily do something which could be to the detriment of Alcoholics Anonymous, the serious detriment, it is not only their right to file a minority appeal, it is their duty.

So, like De Toqueville, neither you nor I want either the tyranny of the majority, nor the tyranny of the small minority. And steps have been taken here to balance up these relations. (GSC, 1960)

Continued on next page!

Northern Light Article

Continued from previous page!

Question - Why the General Service Conference?

Answer - Alcoholics Anonymous, we think, will always need a world center -- some point of reference on the globe where our few but important universal services can focus and then radiate to all who wish to be informed or helped. Such a place will ever be needed to look after our over-all public relations, answer inquiries, foster new Groups and distribute our standard books and publications. We shall also want a place of advice and mediation touching important questions of general policy or A.A. Tradition. We shall require, too, a safe repository for the modest funds we shall use to carry out these simple, but universal purposes.

Of course we must take care that our universal center of service never attempts to discipline or govern. Conversely, we ought to protect our good servants working there from unreasonable demands or political demands of any kind. No personal power, no officials or resounding titles, no politics, no accumulation of money or property, none but vital universal services to Alcoholics Anonymous - that is our ideal. To do without such a Center would be to invite confusion and disunity; to install there a centralized authority would be to encourage political strife and cleavage. Some little organization of our services, securely bound by tradition, we shall surely need - just enough, and of such a character as to permanently forestall any more.

At the center of A.A. we now have the excellent body of custody and service. Our Trustees have gradually come to symbolize the collective conscience of AA, our general office acts in the manner of the heart which receives problems through its veins and pumps out assistance through its myriad arteries, and The Grapevine tries to record the true voice of Alcoholics Anonymous. Such is the happy state of our central affairs that we surely must take pains to preserve and protect, we trust, into a long and useful future.

Therefore, our headquarters problem of the future will, in all probability, consist in guarding and preserving, in its main outlines, what we already have. How then, shall we best keep intact our ideal of service; how shall we avoid national or international politics; how can we best devise against any possible breakdown of the present A.A. Service Headquarters and how shall we give each A.A. in the world a continual assurance that all is well with it; that it continues to perform its tasks effectively, so meriting his warm support, moral and financial?

To these problems of tomorrow many are giving prayerful reflection. A.A.'s are commencing to say what, or who, is going to guarantee the operation of our General Headquarters when the old-timers who inaugurated it have passed off the scene, especially very early ones like Dr. Bob and Bill. Known so well to us from the pioneering period of A.A., these early ones still occupy a unique position. They command a wider confidence and still wield more personal influence than anyone else could again, or for that matter, ever should. Having helped set up our universal Service Center they asked the rest of us to have confidence in it. And we do have that confidence, not that we much know the present Trustees, but because we know Bob and Bill and the other oldsters, in the long future, when these oldsters can no longer assure us, who is going to take their place? Does it not seem clear that the A.A. movement and its Service Center must soon be drawn closer together? Though we know our General Office and our Grapevine fairly well, shouldn't we somehow draw closer to our Trustees? Shouldn't we take steps to allay our feelings of remoteness while the older ones are still around, and there is still time to experiment?" Such are the questions now being asked, and they are good ones.

Perhaps the best suggestion for closing the gap between our Alcoholic Foundation and the A.A. Groups is the idea of creating what we might call the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous. (Proposal by Bill W. and Dr. Bob to the Alcoholic Foundation, April, 1947) .

Another Answer

Let's face these facts (October 1950). First. Dr. Bob and I are perishable, we can't last forever. Second. The Trustees are almost unknown to the A.A. membership. Third. In future years our Trustees couldn't possibly function without direct guidance from A.A. itself. Somebody must advise them. Somebody, or something must take the place of Dr. Bob and I. Fourth. Alcoholics Anonymous is out of its infancy. Grown up, adult now, it has full right and plain duty to take direct responsibility for its own Headquarters. Fifth. Clearly then, unless the Foundation is firmly anchored, through State and Provincial representatives, to the movement it serves, a Headquarters breakdown will someday be inevitable. When its old timers vanish, an isolated Foundation couldn't survive one grave mistake or serious controversy. Any storm could blow it down. Its revival wouldn't be simple. Possibly it could never be revived. Still isolated, there would be no means of doing that. Like a fine car without gasoline it would be helpless. Sixth. Another serious flaw; As a whole, the A.A. movement has never faced a grave crisis. But someday it will have to. Human affairs being what they are, we can't expect to remain untouched by the hour of serious trouble. With direct support unavailable, with no reliable cross-section of A.A. opinion, how could our remote Trustees handle a hazardous emergency? This gaping "open end" in our present set-up could positively guarantee a debacle. Confidence in the Foundation would be lost. A .A.'s everywhere would say: "By whose authority do the Trustees speak for us? And how do they know they are right?" With A.A. Service life-lines tangled and severed, what then might happen to the million who don't know. Thousands would continue to suffer or die because we had taken no fore-thought, because we had forgotten the virtue of prudence This must not come to pass.

That is why the Trustees, Dr. Bob and I now propose the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous. That is why we urgently need your direct help. Our principle services must go on living. We think the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous can be the agency to make that certain. (Third Legacy Pamphlet, October 1950)

2011 – AREA 35 SCHEDULE

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)

Zonal Forum
Zone 4
Districts 8, 9, and 12
Duluth Alano Club
3009 Restormel St.
Duluth, MN
May 14th, 2011
12 p.m. to 4:00 p.m

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

2011 West Central Regional Forum
September 9-11
Clarion Hotel & Conference Center
5202 Brady Street
Davenport, IA 52806
Hotel 1-563-391-1230
There is no Registration Fee

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

April 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
U.S. Federal Holidays are Red					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	Good 22 Friday	23
24 Easter	Easter 25 Monday	26	27	28	29	30

May 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mother's 8 Day	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 MemorialDay	31				U.S. Federal Holidays are Red

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

You can find out more about events on area35.org/

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

St. Cloud Roundup
Saturday, May, 21st
Moose Lodge 1300 3rd St. N.
Waite Park, Mn

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 SPRING ASSEMBLY
April 2, 3 Tower , MN
Agenda

- ___ 9:00A.M. Registration
- ___ 10:00 A.M. GSR ORIENTATION & ACTION COMMITTEE MEETINGS
- 11:30A.M. LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)
- 1:00 Assembly Convenes
 - ___ Call to Order Open with the Serenity Prayer
 - ___ Why we need a Conference
 - Recognize past delegates
 - ___ Approval Fall Assembly Minutes
 - ___ Add To Agenda
- ___ OFFICER REPORTS
 - ___ Delegate-Jon C
 - ___ Alternate Delegate –Jim K
 - ___ Chair- Michael J
 - ___ Secretary-Heidi R
 - ___ Treasure-Sarah K

- COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS
 - ___ 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- Dan 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-Steve J
 - ___ 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 Ge
 - ___ Literature – Bob K
 - ___ District 8-Randy A
 - ___ District 12-Jana M
- 2:20 P.M. BREAK

- 2:30 P.M. BREAKOUT SESSIONS
- ___

- 3:30 P.M. BREAK
- 3:40 P.M. BREAKOUT SESSIONS
- 4:45 P.M.
GSR SHARING SESSION DCM SHARING SESSION
- 6:00P.M. DINNER (On your own)
- 7:15 P.M. DELEGATE SHARING AND BREAKOUT SESSIONS REPORTS
- LITERATURE – ARCHIVES- C.P.C.- GRAPEVINE- TREATMENT- CORRECTIONS - PUBLIC INFORMATION- FINANCE- AGENDA- TRUSTEES-REPORT & CHARTER- POLICY/ADMISSIONS- INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS/REGIONAL FORUMS

SUNDAY APRIL 3, 2011

- 7:30 A.M.-8:45A.M Big Book Meeting
- 9:00 A.M. ASSEMBLY RECONVENES
- Business not completed Saturday GSR Sharing Session Report
- DCM Sharing Session Report
- OLD BUSINESS
- WCRAASC 2011

NEW BUSINESS

- Calendar of Events
- TBA

- Ask It Basket (Past Delegates)
- Adjourn

