

Deadline for the next
Northern Light is
November 1st, 2011

This is YOUR Newsletter.

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

Please bring extra copies to share with your group!

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

AREA 35 COMMITTEE 2011

AREA OFFICERS

DELEGATE

JON C.
delegate@area35.org

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

JIM K.
alt_delegate@area35.org

AREA CHAIR

MICHAEL “JAKE” J.
areachair@area35.org

TREASURER

SARAH K.
treasurer@area35.org

SECRETARY

HEIDI R.
secretary@area35.org

AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PUBLIC INFORMATION

ROGER R.
pi@area35.org

ARCHIVES

ART HUR J. A.
archives@area35.org

ARCHIVIST

BRAD I.
archivist@area35.org

CORRECTIONS

KELLY D.
corrections@area35.org

LITERATURE

BOB K.
liturature@area35.org

GRAPEVINE

DOLORES D. K.
grapevine@area35.org

COOPERATION WITH THE
PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

(C.P.C.)

DOUG N.
cpc@area35.org

TREATMENT

ROBERT (BUTCH) R.
treatment@area35.org

WEBMASTER

STEVEN L.
webmaster@area35.org

GROUP RECORDS

LAURIE R.
grouprecords@area35.org

NORTHERN LIGHT

DANIEL R.
northernlight@area35.org

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS
(D.C.M.s)

DISTRICT 1

LON G.
dcm1@area35.org

DISTRICT 2

RODNEY P.
dcm2@area35.org

DISTRICT 3

JIM S.
dcm3@area35.org

DISTRICT 4

DEE DEE B.
dcm4@area35.org

DISTRICT 5

RITA D.
dcm5@area35.org

DISTRICT 6

KATHIE G.
dcm6@area35.org

DISTRICT 7

MARK N.
dcm7@area35.org

DISTRICT 8

RANDY A.
dcm8@area35.org

DISTRICT 9

CHUCK R.
dcm9@area35.org

DISTRICT 11

GARY H.
dcm11@area35.org

DISTRICT 12

JANA M.
dcm12@area35.org

DISTRICT 13

STEVE J.
dcm13@area35.org

DISTRICT 15

SANDY H.
dcm15@area35.org

DISTRICT 16

MARY S.
dcm16@area35.org

DISTRICT 18

VERN P.
[>>](mailto:dcm18@area35.org)

DISTRICT 21

CARL B.
dcm21@area35.org

DISTRICTS 10, 14, 17, 19 AND 20
UNKNOWN

MOVING?
ADDRESS NOT
CORRECT?

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

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

GroupRecords@area35.org

Thank you!

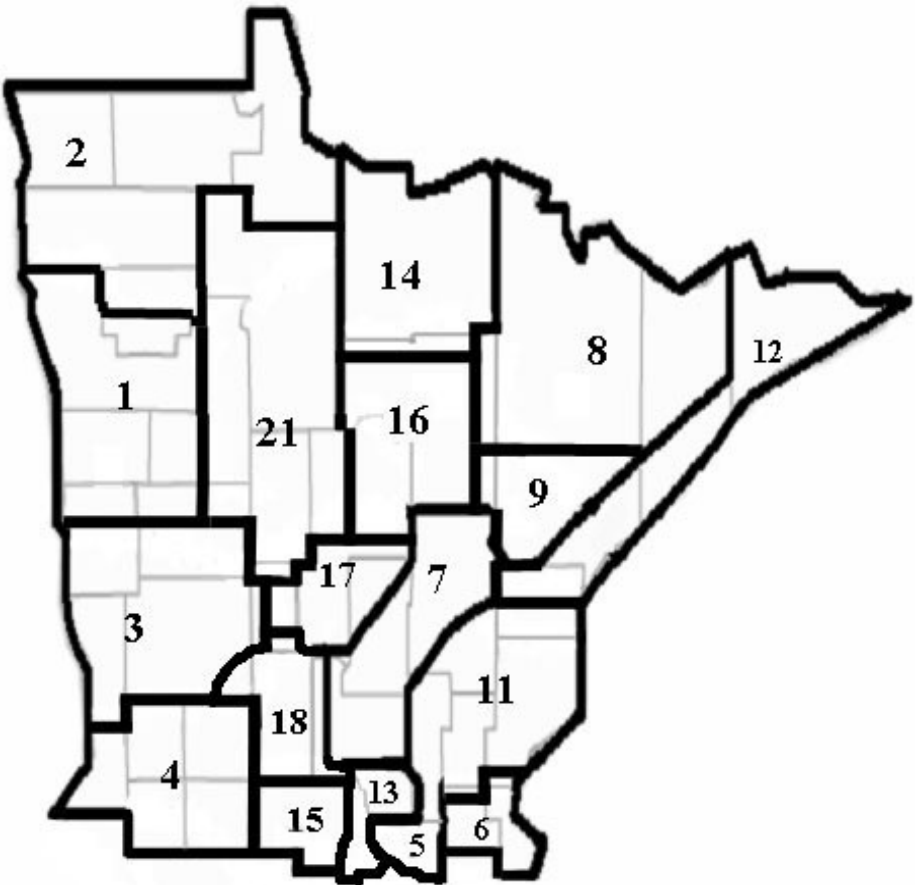
Our Past Delegates

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

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, Silver Bay, Brimson, Brookston, Cloquet, Duluth, Esko, Finland, Fredenberg, Grand Marais, Grand Portage, Hermantown, Knife River, Lawrence Lake*, Lutsen, Mahtowa, Pike Lake, Proctor, Sawyer, Silver Bay, Foxborro (Wisconsin), Side Lake, Superior (Wisconsin), Toivola, Two Harbors
- District 14** - Effie, International Falls, Nett Lake

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

District Meeting Location Information

District 1
2nd Sunday of even months, 2:00 p.m.
Fertile Community Center
101 S. Mill St., Fertile, MN 56540

District 2
2nd Sunday of Odd Months, 2:00 p.m.
First Lutheran Church
210 Park Ave. N.
Middle River, MN 56737

District 3
3rd Sunday of Month, 10:00 a.m.
Perham Alano Club
Hwy 34
Perham, MN 56573

District 4
2nd Saturday of Month, 5:30 p.m.
Call DCM Dee Dee (320) 491-7230
for location (It Rotates)
Potluck at 6:30 p.m.
Round Robin at 7:00 p.m.

District 5
3rd Monday of Month, 7 p.m.
St. John Lutheran Church
13045 Fremont Ave
Zimmerman, MN 55398

District 6
3rd Thursday of Month, 7:30 p.m.
Spring Lake Lutheran Church
8440 Erickson Rd. N.E.
North Branch, MN 55056

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

District 8
Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m.
General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Call Randy for location “It Rotates”
218-225-8833 - Palo, MN

District 9
Last Sunday of Month, 6:00 p.m.
Hibbing Alano Club
3725 1st Avenue
Hibbing, MN 55746

District 11
1st Tuesday of Month, 7:00 p.m.
Peace Lutheran
2177 Hwy 18
Finlayson, MN 55735

District 12
3rd Thursday 6:30 p.m. - Email DCM at
dcm12@area35.org for rotating location!

District 13
1st Monday of Month,
7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
St. cloud Alano Club
127 7th Ave. NE
Saint Cloud, MN 56304

District 15
1st Monday of Month, 8:00 p.m.
Albany Community Center
741 Lake Ave.
Albany, MN 56307

District 16
1st Wednesday of Month, 5:30 p.m.
United Methodist Church
1701 S.E. 8th Ave.
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Handicap Accessible, Non-Smoking

District 18
1st Tuesday of Month, 6:30 p.m.
Long Prairie Alano Club
21 2nd Ave.
Long Prairie, MN 56347

District 21
2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m.
Bemidji Alano Club
1225 Anne St.

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

Delegate's Report

“Note from the Editor”

In our last issue of the Northern Light, our Delegate Jon C. reported that he had experienced some serious health issues. Because of this he has had to pass most of duties on to others for the rest of this rotation. I refer you to our Alternate Delegate's report below for anyone who may need Delegate assistance!

Alternate Delegate's Report

Greetings everyone in Area 35,

As I write my report today, I get a chance to reflect on the miraculous turn of events that have taken place in my life since my introduction to Alcoholics Anonymous. Today marks the day that I began my life with all of you on this amazing way of life and I sincerely thank each and every one of you for the opportunity to serve Area 35. I also thank the many of you for the personal help you have offered me. The service that I perform for AA is a small cry to the service it has provided to me.

I have been in contact with Ken B., our West Central Regional Trustee, regarding our Area 35 happenings. I was able to sit in on a conference call with all other West Central Delegate's and informed them about me taking over communication for the remainder of this rotation. I will continue to be the go between for information throughout the rest of this rotation due to our delegate's health. If you have concerns or questions, please contact me.

I will be traveling to Davenport Iowa for the West Central Regional Forum, September 9th through the 11th. I have agreed to moderate one of the breakout sessions and have been in contact with Jon and the General Service Office staff regarding the event. I am looking forward to this event and hope to see many of you there.

We have set the final Zonal Forum to take place October 29th at the Perham Alano Club from 12 to 4 p.m. This should be a great event. We encourage all members of Zone 2 and any other able members to attend this event. I want to thank Jim S. from District 3 for helping set up and agreeing to host this event. There was some confusion on directions on the original flier so a new one has been created and is available on our website. Thanks Bill D. for you help with this.

Finally, I have made all arrangements for our upcoming Area 35 Service Workshop which will take place January 21st and 22nd. The event will take place at the Brainerd Hotel in Brainerd, MN. Please make reservations early as there is another major event in Brainerd that weekend and hotel rooms will be difficult to find. We will be blessed to have Ken B., current West Central Regional Trustee, with us. I will be contacting DCM's and others to help present at this event. I will be taking suggestions from last year's evaluations in setting up the event.

Yours in Service,
Jim K.

Chair's Report

Greetings all, hope you have enjoyed your summer. I have been recovering from my health problems and things are going better. I now have to do all the things I should have been doing before. Its always the same. But by the grace of God and AA I have the ability to change on a daily basis. I just returned from spending time in cold Spring at friends from the fellowship. We attended the Cold Spring Alano Clubs Speaker meeting and Hog roast. It was great! It is very important that the fellowship remains vibrant and strong. After all our preamble states that AA is a fellowship not just a program of action. I am blessed to enjoy participating in most everything AA has to offer. I have been speaking at our local treatment centers and recently spoke at NERC. It is such a blessing to be able to give back. I also attended the KIS weekend and enjoyed the speakers, Brads cooking and the fellowship.

We have had many things happening this year with our area committee. Jim and Sarah brought new life in the form of a baby girl. Our delegate Jon has suffered through much hardship with his health. Art has suffered health problems and so have I. Lets keep everyone in our prayers and support each other through life's adventures. None of us knows when life will strike and affect our lives. Sure glad there is a God and I'm not it. My sponsor told me early on in AA that once I got sober it was not about me any more. It is now about all the people in my life that I come in contact with and affect. e have an exciting event coming up...our Fall Assembly. It is an election assembly so please encourage a good turnout. It is always amazing to see how god works in our lives. I am excited for the new area chair and hope he or she will not have trouble finding a committee to serve. I have already heard from a few people that feel their time is finished in area service....I know that it has always been up to God in my life at what level and where I will serve. May god bless all of us and especially those that have taken the time to serve AA as it does require time and commitment. See you in Bemidji.

Yours in love and Service
Michael (Jake) J.

Secretary's Report

Greetings Area 35,

The August Committee Meeting Minutes have been sent out by email to members of Area 35, GSO, and the West Central Regional Trustee. If you have any questions about the minutes, please feel free to contact me at secretary@area35.org. If anyone would like to be added (or should be a part of) my distribution list to receive emails of the Area Minutes, flyers, and any other related Area information; please give me your name and email address. If you do not have access to email and would like to receive the Area 35 Minutes by mail, give me your name and address. I will be sure to mail you the Area 35 minutes and flyers. I am still unsure if I will be attending the West Central Regional Forum in Davenport, IA. All of the Area 35 Trusted Servant Guidelines have been updated and approved by the Area 35 Chair. They should be posted on the Area 35 website shortly. Due to the size of the Area 35 Guidelines, I am not sure if they will be available in the next issue of the Northern Light. I have sent the Area 35 Trusted Servant Guidelines in email to everyone on my distribution list. If you did not receive the Area 35 Trusted Servant Guidelines please let me know.

Yours in Service,

Heidi R.

Treasurer's Report

Greetings Area 35! I have been busily cashing checks and entering data in our financial accounting software, and not much else. I regret to inform the Area that I will be unable to attend the WCRF in September on account of personal issues. (We are all okay, just can't both travel that far with an infant to care for.) I know how valuable and important these events are to the Area, and I look forward to reading the reports of those who have attended. As for the treasury, we are looking amazing! We have over \$20,000 available for service (see the minutes from the Aug. committee meeting for the exact numbers). I've been told the Area has never had this much in their account before. Since that is the case, and we know that we ought never become the seat of perilous wealth, I challenge all members of Area 35 (Area chairs and officers as well!) to think about the services being provided by your area chairs and officers. Ask yourselves, maybe during a group business meeting, if we are doing our best to provide the services you need or want. What types of things would you like to see the Area committee do more of? This is related to finances, because the amount a chair budgets for and spends is often related to the amount of service work being performed. As a guide, I suggest you take out the most recent treasury reports and review the detailed expenses of each chairperson (I can send you the reports if you don't have them). Look at what the expenses are as a way to see what the chairs are doing. Do they report a large amount of travel expenses? If so, why? They may live far away from an event, or they may be traveling around the Area visiting groups and doing the work! So, a chair who is spending more money than other chairs may actually be doing more service work! Feel free to ask me for clarification of any expenses you question. Perhaps your group will come up with some ideas on services being provided (or needed) in the Area. Please share your findings with your GSR and District, or email me directly!

Sarah K.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Correction Chair's Report

Greetings Area 35,

It is hard to believe that another summer has come to an end and we are moving into fall again. With that brings close the completion of yet another two year rotation of service for us in Area 35. I look forward to attending the Fall Assembly as we once again elect our incoming officers for the 2012-2013 rotation. We have many qualified individuals that are willing to serve and will do a great job for our area if elected. I attended the Aitkin Committee Meeting in August and our Corrections Chairs and their Districts are working hard to continue to carry the message of hope into the correctional facilities. I just received 20 more inmates requesting AA contacts upon their release so I will be busy passing on that information. That brings our total to 168 since the beginning of my rotation. I will be attending the Moose Lake Transition Fair Thursday, September 1st and will be receiving more from there that will also want contacts. I cannot give a report however, without thanking everyone that have been an AA contact for these inmates and continues to do so. Your service and willingness have never gone unnoticed! I volunteered at the Mille Lacs County Fair AA booth on August 12th and at the State Fair booth on August 27th which is always a great experience to be a part of with Alcoholics Anonymous. I enjoyed a fun and relaxing weekend (badly needed by the way) with my many friends from "way up north" at Keep It Simple August 12-14th. I look forward to attending the St. Cloud Round Up October 28-30th which is always another great time of fellowship. Thank you to the groups and Area 35 for your financial support to carry out my duties as your Area 35 Corrections Chair.

In love and service,
Kelly D.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS Continued!

Group Records

Hi everyone. It's been a busy summer and I know it's going to be a busy fall as well. I hope everyone has had a great summer. I continue to update and enter new group information in the GSO Database and passing them on to Steve L. the Area 35 Webmaster so that he can update the website. I also continue to update the aameetinglocator as well. When there are problems with the aameetinglocator that I can't fix, I email Mike S. so that he can fix them. If anyone has any questions about their group or has any updates that need to be made, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thanks for allowing me to serve. Laurie R.

Treatment

I apologize to Heidi and all for not getting my report in in time to get in the minutes. No excuses. At our last meeting the main concern was getting enough people to carry the message into facilities due to travel expense. Some are paying a modest amount to defray the cost of travel. Other than that things are being tended to. It is my hope that we continue the support for those requesting a Temporary Contact and the Bridging The Gap Program. I am looking forward to the Forum in Davenport and hope to see Area 35 Northern Minnesota people there it is also a fun time and a great learning experience as well. Not much more so Thant You for allowing to serve.

In Service Butch R.

Literature

Some have been asking about when there will be new Literature catalogs, they are here and I will have them at the fall Assembly. Will be checking the inventory and ordering what I think will be needed.

Yours in service Bob K.

Public Information

Thank you all in Area 35 for the opportunity you give me to continue to be of service. I attended the August Committee Meeting in Aitkin, MN. I am also looking forward to attending the West Central Regional Service Conference in mid- September.

My main recent PI activity has been in soliciting volunteers to staff the joint Area 35 and 36 AA State Fair Booth. I also supplied each shift with a packet of information for volunteering at the booth. I included a State Fair Shift survey in each packet to do a general tracking of booth and building traffic. I would like to give a special thank you to Rita D. who served as a day captain on Saturday August 27. I volunteered at the booth on August 28, 2011. My report on the 2011 AA State Fair Booth follows.

Continued on next page

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS Continued!

Area 35 2011 State Fair Report

Area 35 staffed the AA State Fair Booth on August 27 and August 28, 2011. Our area contributed \$500.00 to the total costs of this booth. I will report the total costs when I receive this information. I would like to again thank all of our 2011 State Fair Volunteers for your service. All booth volunteers filled out a shift survey, when they were not busy talking to visitors. This report is based upon their surveys. Please note that these surveys are only estimates of activity at our both.

The move of the AA booth from the Grandstand Building to the Education Building continues to be successful. Approximately 80,000 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 Data). Our literature plays an important role in carrying our message.

The number of friends and families of still suffering alcoholics (51) and still suffering alcoholics (18) are greater than observed in 2010. These numbers also indicate that our message was carried to those who need to hear our message of hope and solution. Other booth visitors included: professionals, AA members, friends/family of AA members, young people and. 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. We also carried our message to other important sources of references such as professionals.

Area 35 State Fair Shift Data can be found on the second page of this report. These data is based on estimates provided by both volunteers

PI Chair Roger R.

2011 Area 35 State Fair Shift Survey Results
Saturday August 27 and Sunday August 28

Estimate of the number of people who walked by and became aware of the AA booth but did not stop at the booth?

65 per minute
65 x 60 (minutes)x 20 (hours) = 78,000 (estimate)

Booth Visitors: (Approximation)

- Professionals: How many; 26
- What types of professionals? Clergy, Education, Criminal Justice, Health Care, ,Counselors
- AA members: How many? 80
- Friends/family of AA members: How many?38
- Friends/family of Suffering Alcoholics: How many: 51
- Still Suffering Alcoholics: How many: 18
- Young people wondering if they have a problem: How many? 10
- Visitors picking up information for others: How many? 28
- Sober people who are not in AA: How many: 2
- Visitors stopping by for other reasons: How many? 6

Visitor Demographics: (Approximation)

- Male Ages:
 - less than 18: How many? 10
 - 18-24: How many? 11
 - 25-54: How many? 51
 - 55 plus: How many? 12
- Total: 84

- Female Ages:
 - less than 18: How many? 6
 - 18-24: How many? 7
 - 25-54: How many? 47
 - 55 plus: How many? 17
- Total: 80

Total Visitors: 164

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS Continued!

Webmaster

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 5 in attendance from districts 2, 16 plus the Group Records Secretary and me at the Aug Area Meeting in Aitikn.
Dan was wondering what you thought of putting forwarders for past delegates instead of their email addresses. Below is how I have the past delegates set up in my distribution list. It seems only fair and would look better in the NL. I would put them as JerryS-Past-Delegate-Panel56@area35.org What do you think?

It's great that DCM's are listening and taking me up on adding District pages to the web site. Since my last report at the Spring Assembly I've updated Two District Web pages Dist 13's map and District 7, with an inquiry from Dist 3 to create a page for them.
I've been busy keeping the meeting list up to date with correct and current information from Laurie.
I've been busy screening and posting meeting events posted on the calendar.
I've updated the new/change meeting form.
I'm working on adding Paypal to the site it should be ready soon. I was trying to get it ready for today buy there are a couple of aesthetic design quirks yet to be worked out, along with insuring complete stability with all the main browsers with and without java support. **By the time you read this Paypal may be up and running by going to the officers tab.**

We are still looking at recoding the Meeting list page to be able to be more printer friendly. We have run into a small snag. Dan and I had a Computer Conference call on Tuesday June 14 to look at what is going on with the problem. Wanted to ask if (BIG IF) need be can we out source (Pay a pro coder to look over the problem and offer a fix?)

The Trusted Servant Guidelines have been added and can be accessed by the Area 35 Website by going to the officers tab.
If you have an event that you would like on the website please email them to me or upload through the website. Please when making fliers remember to give a physical address like 123 recovery circle NOT just a location like town hall, Community Center. And Please upload fliers to me in pdf or word Doc formats.
Now a little summation about the Web site usage for the month on June We had 42,480 hits from 1640 unique sites like Google 482, Yahoo 69, MS Bling 45, AOL 4 and others. The busiest day was June 20 from 83 visitors with 2675 hits, busiest weekday was Mondays.

How the site was contacted.
63.8% from Direct address / Bookmark / Link in email
15.2 % from Links from an Internet Search Engine
20.8% from Links from an external page (other web sites except search engines
Top 5

- http://www.usrecovery.info/AA/Minnesota.htm	247
- http://www.theagapecenter.com/AAinUSA/Minnesota.htm	132
- http://alcoholism.about.com/gi/o.htm	29
- http://www.aa.org/lang/en/redirect.cfm	17
- http://sbrg.vndv.com	17

Now a little summation about the Web site usage for the month on July We had 49,327 hits from 1,352 unique sites like Google 620, Yahoo 9, MS Bling 7, AOL 8 and others. The busiest day was July 5 from 83 visitors with 2125 hits, busiest weekday was Tuesdays.
How the site was contacted.
64.3% from Direct address / Bookmark / Link in email
17.1 % from Links from an Internet Search Engine: Google 616; Yahoo 9
18.5% from Links from an external page (other web sites except search engines)
Top 5 sites

http://www.usrecovery.info/AA/Minnesota.htm	238
- http://www.aa.org/lang/en/redirect.cfm	150
- http://www.theagapecenter.com/AAinUSA/Minnesota.htm	124
- http://alcoholism.about.com/gi/o.htm	26
- http://aa.org/lang/en/redirect.cfm	16
- http://aameetinglocator.org/content/minnesota-aa-meeting-locator...	14

Please start looking for people to fill the area chairs and action committees for the next rotation.
Humbly in service
Steven L.

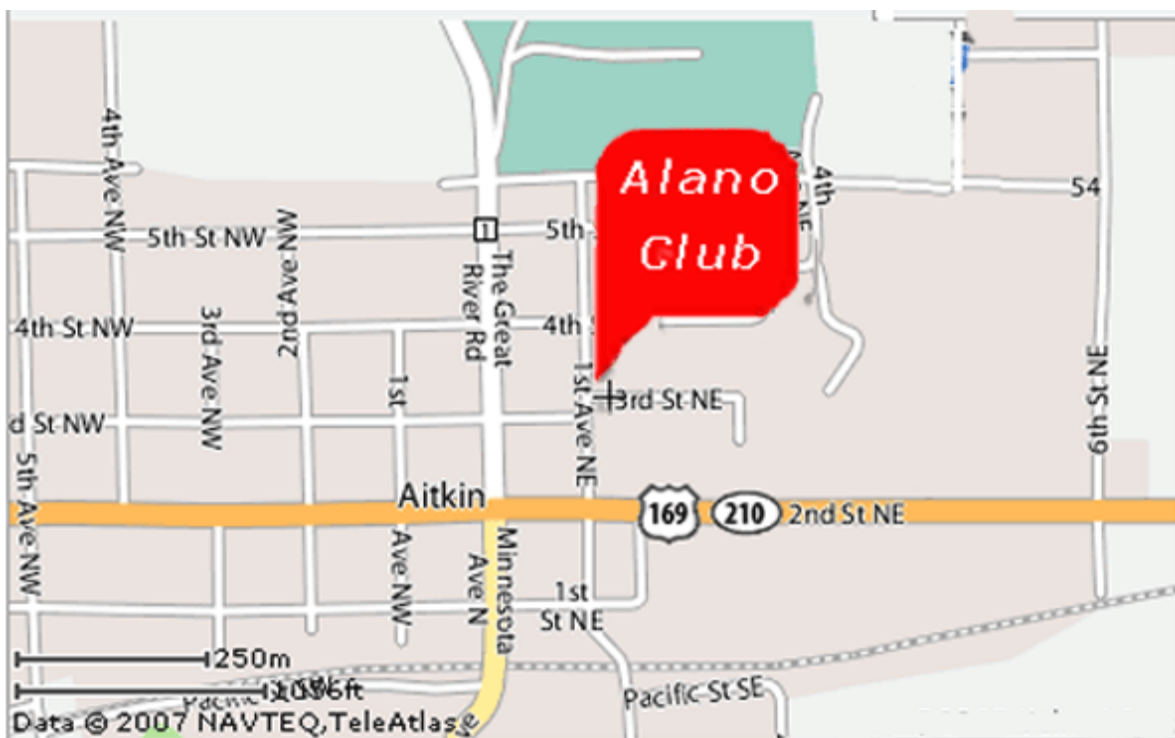
Inclement Weather Procedure For Area 35 Events

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.
7. Post procedure in Northern Lights.
8. Chair remains available and in close contact as he or she is the focal point and main contact he or she must make the decision, and be available for calls.

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

I have had an active time since my last report and am in the middle of more activity. The zonal archives workshop was well attended and well received. The only drawback was the torrential downpour during the long-timers speaking and drowned them out in the recording.

I am going to Davenport for the Regional Forum, next week and to Helena Montana for the National Archivists Convention then to Bemidji for Fall Assembly. I have never been to the Sanford Center so this will be a new adventure in recording. I gave a short history talk in St. Cloud at the request of a group

Last issues answer was Wendell Wilkie, Republican candidate in 1940. This issues question: In the chapter “To Wives” what phrase could not possibly appeared in the first edition Big Book.

Thanks for the opportunity to be of service.
Brad I.

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

No report submitted!

ARCHIVE CHAIR

Sorry I couldn’t make it to the committee meeting due to health. It has been a tough year on my body but it will get better.

We had our archives workshop on August 20, 2011 at Seven Clans Casino. We had 14 in attendance. We would’ve liked more but that is the way it goes. Those in attendance thoroughly enjoyed it. They thought Brad and I did a good job especially Brad, as some of the people have never seen the archives from the district or area. I would like to thank those from district 1 and everyone for attending.

Yours in service,
Art A.

GRAPEVINE

Greetings to all in Area 35:

Announcement: Grapevine Complete – Grapevine Complete combines the Grapevine print magazine and on-line subscriptions into one for the price of \$49.97, a \$13.97 SAVINGS IF PURCHASED SEPARATELY.

THE GRAPEVINE CATALOG IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD IN THE SERVICE/GVR SECTION UNDER

TOOLS AND RESOURCES. LIMITED NUMBER OF PRINT CATALOGS ARE AVAILABLE AS WELL. THE CATALOG

FEATURES THE TWO NEWEST BOOKS THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE THIS SEPTEMBER

“ STEP BY STEP” AD
“EMOTIONALY SOBRIETY II”.

REMINDER; THE 61ST CONFERENCE OF AA RECOMMENDED THAT EVERY AA GROUP SUBSCRIBE TO TWO SUBSRIPTIONS PER GROUP TO KEEP THE MAGAZINE OUT THERE FOR ALL TO SHARE.

MY SUGGESTION IS THAT SPONSORS COULD BUY A SUBSCRIPTION FOR THEIR SPONSEES SO THAT

THEY GET FAMILIAR WITH THE PREAMBLE AND THE 12 STEPS AND 12 TRADITIONS FOR STARTERS.

Yours in Service
Dee K.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)**Northern Light Editor**

Hello fellow servants,

I hope you all are enjoying reading this issue as much as I have while editing it and putting it together. It seems as if the excitement of this rotation ending and the next moving rapidly towards us has brought out the best in our trusted Area 35 servants. If you are in group or district service this is where you will find the consolidated record of our area's efforts to reach the still suffering alcoholic. I've heard it said many times, although not glamorous, service work helps make recovery possible - Every thing we do is so an alcoholic or future one can be in touch with another alcoholic and get the help they need!

In this issue you will want to check closely in Archivist Brad's report on the previous page - He answers the previous issues' History challenge and asks another History challenge question!

I was able to add two fine articles to this issue, and an extra page just to test your AA knowledge, and for fun. On **page 14** you will see a challenging AA related Crossword Puzzle submitted by Andrew R. from St. Cloud. On **page 15** you will see an article entitled, **I Can't Do It** by our Archives Chair Art A.. Beginning on **page 15** and finishing on **page 16** is some "I think quite apropos for timing" archival material submitted by our Area Treasurer Sarah K. which is simply called **Excerpts from AA Comes of Age**!

The next issue will have the final reports from this our 60th Panel of Officer and Committee Chairs. Also we will have the exciting minutes from the Fall Assembly with results of the voting for new Area Officers and other items related to the Assembly. Stay tuned!

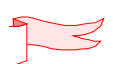
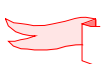
Remember, you can always check current and back issues of the Northern Light online at area35.org/NL.html — with no last names or addresses of course!

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/**

Northern Light Fun Time

Submitted by an AA member who talked to me a while back at an Area function about creating this and I agreed that it would be a great idea. Of course answers will be forthcoming in the next issue!

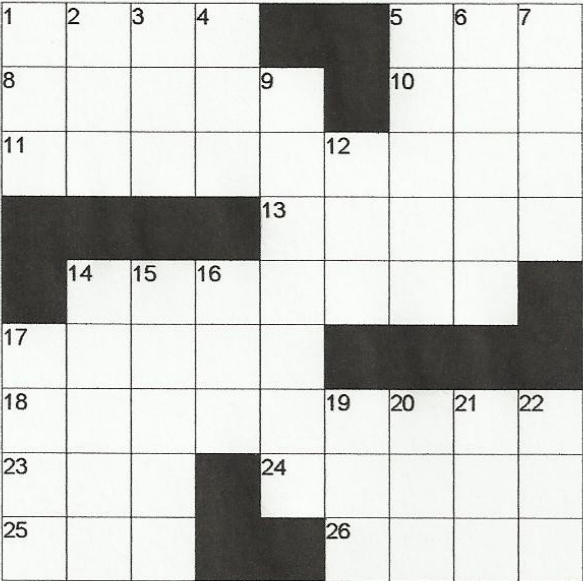
AA Crossword Puzzle Andrew R., St. Cloud

ACROSS

- 1. The first AA meetings there were started shortly after World War II by American GIs
- 5. "No matter how ____ down the scale...": p. 84
- 8. Co-founder of AA
- 10. "Never was ____ be critical of them.": p. 13
- 11. It says "Made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all"
- 13. Moral code
- 14. They're passed at meetings to honor the Seventh Tradition
- 17. "Alcoholics Anonymous" is the official one of the Big Book
- 18. Where AA was founded
- 23. Traveling AAs may be seen wearing them at meetings in Hawaii
- 24. Co-founder of AA
- 25. Period of time
- 26. "Many times I have ____ to my old hospital in despair": p. 15

DOWN

- 1. Six-pack items (no, not *that* kind of six-pack!)
- 2. Take one's seat at an AA meeting
- 3. Project's ending?
- 4. Swiss mountain
- 5. "...I had made no ____ whatever against the first drink": p. 41
- 6. "Some day we hope that every alcoholic who journeys will find a Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous ____ destination.": p. 162



© 2011

- 7. Campus military program: Abbr.
- 9. Length of many AA round-ups and service functions
- 12. Citizen's suffix
- 14. AA member dressed in leather, perhaps
- 15. Skylit courts
- 16. ____-mo replay
- 17. Story in the AA Grapevine, for example
- 19. www.aa.____
- 20. Popular cable channel
- 21. Charged particle
- 22. Brit. honor

Northern Light Article

I Can't do it

When I came to AA, I knew I couldn't stop drinking. At the first meeting, I really knew I couldn't do it. Not only did I know I couldn't stop drinking but that I wouldn't fit in. Some of the people around the tables seem to be so happy and confident in themselves. I was so scared to read as I am not a good reader. I was so scared to talk as I am not good at talking in front of people before coming to AA.

When I went to my first meeting, the person who was telling his story seemed to be so professional at it. That just reinforced my thinking that I couldn't do it. I kept going and I started to open at meetings. Then I was asked to be GSR for a new group after only three months of sobriety. I said I would try to do my best, and I did.

I remember having to give the DCM report at an AA assembly. This was maybe two months into my being a GSR. Charlie, Jerry, and JoAnn met me and they gave me the confidence to give the report. I can't thank them enough for that. I was asked to tell my story for the first time. I was physically sick for six days before. The night I told my story, I asked my higher power for help to tell my story in my own words and in my own way. I've been in service work after only three months of sobriety ever since. It has been the best thing I have ever done.

As of today, I still can't do it but with the help of my higher power and the fellowship in AA, I have done things I knew I couldn't do. Thank you to all who have helped me in my journey. It has been the best one I have ever been on.

Respectfully submitted,
Arthur A
Area Archives Chair
Thief River Falls, MN

Northern Light Article

Excerpts from AA Comes of Age

When Bill W. stepped to the podium in Kiel Auditorium, St. Louis, Missouri, at four o'clock Sunday afternoon, July 3, 1955, it was a watershed moment in the history of Alcoholics Anonymous. The three days of the 20th Anniversary International Convention that preceded that Sunday afternoon were themselves full of historic significance.

The fifth General Service Conference met during the Convention: 75 delegates from all over the U.S. and Canada, meeting with the trustees and General Service Office and Grapevine staff members. This meeting marked the end of the five-year trial period for the Conference. The members had already adopted the permanent charter when they assembled on the stage in Kiel Auditorium on Sunday.

"From today's perspective," recalls Nell Wing, Bill's longtime secretary, "it's hard for people to realize what a momentous decision was made that Sunday morning 30 years ago. It was dramatic and very moving to us who knew what an effort of Bill's this was, over a lot of opposition." Bill had pushed through the idea of a Conference largely by campaigning for it vigorously and personally...Now he offered the Fellowship an example of personal and organizational humility: relinquishing his own leadership in favor of an absolute democracy. In light of all these moves toward maturity and responsibility, Bill was justified in declaring A.A. was about to "Come of Age."

Continued on next page!

Northern Light Article (Continued)

Then Bern Smith introduced Bill once again, most movingly, for the final summing-up. Likening Lois and himself to parents letting loose of their offspring so they may "come of age," he offered some fatherly words of admonition:

I have great faith that we shall never embrace and persist in a fatal error; and yet we still might do so, fallible human being that we are. This is the area in the future life of A.A. where we can never be too prudent or too vigilant. Let us not suppose, just because A.A. as a whole has never had a grievous problem, that it never can have one. If such a difficulty ever comes, I feel sure that it will center about false pride and anger, the two most destructive defects that we alcoholics have.

As a society we must never become so vain as to suppose that we have been the authors and inventors of a new religion. We will humbly reflect that each of A.A.'s principles, every one of them, has been borrowed from ancient sources. We shall remember that we are laymen, holding ourselves in readiness to co-operate with all men of good will, whatever their creed or nationality.

Then, too, it would be a product of false pride to believe that Alcoholics Anonymous is a cure all, even for alcoholism. Here we must remember our debt to the men of medicine. Here we must be friendly and, above all, open-minded toward every new development in the medical or psychiatric art that promises to be helpful to sick people.

We should always be friendly to those in the fields of alcoholic research, rehabilitation, and education. We should endorse none especially but hold ourselves in readiness to co-operate so far as we can with them all. Let us constantly remind ourselves that the experts in religion are the clergymen; that the practice of medicine is for physicians; and that we, the recovered alcoholics, are their assistants.

Let us never be a closed corporation; let us never deny our experience for whatever it may be worth to the world around us. Let our individual members heed the call to every field of human endeavor. Let them carry the experience and spirit of A.A. into all these affairs, for whatever good they may accomplish. For not only has God saved us from alcoholism; the world has received us back into its citizenship. Yet believing in paradoxes as we do, we must still realize that the more the society of Alcoholics Anonymous as such tends to its own affairs and minds its own business, the greater will be our general influence, the less will be any opposition to us, and the wider will be the circle in which our fellowship will be likely to enjoy the confidence and respect of men.

There are certain areas where anger and contention could prove to be our undoing. We know this because stronger societies than our own have been undone. The whole modern world is in fact coming apart as never before because of political and religious strife; because men blindly pursue wealth, fame, and personal power regardless of the consequences to anyone, even to themselves. These are the destructive drives that are inevitably spurred by self-justification, and in all their disastrous collisions they are powered by righteous indignation, then by unreasoning anger, and finally by blind fury.

With the most heartfelt gratitude I can report that we have never yet had to endure any such trials by fire in A.A. In all these twenty marvelous years no such thing as religious or political dissention has touched us. Very few have tried to exploit A.A. for wealth or fame or personal power. We have had great problems, but they have always been resolved. Never has a grave issue cut across and scarred the face of this far-flung fellowship. But, again, this is no earned virtue of ours. Too many of us in our drinking days have suffered the terrible penalties of proud and angry pursuits to forget them now. These very pains have been the beginning of whatever wisdom we have since incorporated in A.A.'s Twelve Traditions. Hence, I feel confident that these forces of destruction will never rule among us. We are prepared to pay the price of peace. We will make every personal sacrifice necessary to insure the unity of Alcoholics Anonymous. We will do this because we have learned to love God and one another.

Then, rising to heights of inspiration and eloquence, Bill concluded with these words which would be so often quoted in the decades that followed:

We give thanks to our Heavenly Father who, through so many friends and through so many means and channels, has allowed us to construct this wonderful edifice of the Spirit in which we are now dwelling. It seems as though He has directed us to construct this cathedral whose foundations already rest upon the corners of the earth. On its great floor 200,000 of us are now sustained in peace, and long since we have inscribed thereon our Twelve Steps of Recovery. The older ones among us have seen the side walls of this cathedral going up, and one by one they have seen the buttresses of A.A. Tradition set in place to contain us in unity for so long as God may will it so. And now eager hearts and hands have lifted the spire of our cathedral into its place. That spire bears the name of Service. May it ever point straight upward toward God.

**Submitted by
Sarah K.
Brainerd, Mn**

AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETING
August 7, 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: Jerry S. (Panel 56), Charlie C. (Panel 54), Tim C. (Panel 52), Tom A. (Panel 50), Susie A. (Panel 48), and Ted S. (Past Trustee and Delegate)

Additions/Corrections to the Agenda:

West Central Regional Forum Budget

Approve June 2011 Area Committee Meeting Minutes: **Motion made to approve the June 2011 Area Committee Meeting Minutes. All in favor, passed unanimously.**

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE-Jon C.- Report submitted and given by Heidi R.

To all members of Area 35, as I write the report, I continually work on our 36 principles of Alcoholics Anonymous, our singleness of purpose, and the named duties of Area 35. Since my stroke on June 3rd, I have a lot to learn. The first phases of alcoholism reads in the Big Book, find a sponsor, and go to meetings. We need unity and we need service, but I have come to understand without good recovery, unity and service will not exist. When one pretty much starts all over, this program is easy when we stick to our principles and our singleness of purpose. But, to me, when you add all the expensive garbage (videos, PSA's, pamphlets, and etc.) it confuses the hell out of me. Thank you all for your prayers, thoughtfulness, and patience. We are holding a 2011 membership survey. Seven groups in Area 35 have been chosen to participate. No substitutions can be used in the survey. I've mailed these questionnaires out on July 12th, and groups will be asked to complete them at a regular meeting between August 1st and August 14th. I need to receive the groups' surveys by September 1st to mail them to GSO. I would like to take some time to go over the 61st General Service Conference. We authorized the Grapevine to use digital channels, current support, and distribution technologies for the sale of magazines, books, and products. Request was also asked that all provisions take place to protect our traditions with the option to discontinue any and all contracts at any time. A point of note: a staff member expressed concerns that the conference is micromanaging and we should allow Phyllis and Ami the latitude and freedom to operate their entities. The Grapevine Board interviewed candidates for the two vacant directors. They came up with two names and were voted down, as Don Massey claimed that neither was qualified. Dorothy Hurley, in her farewell remarks, claimed unfairness between the Board and the two corporations, as well as claimed racism issues at the GSO level. Another point that has been brought up in Area 35, year after year, is when are going to get big print of AA Comes of Age. I spoke to Valerie in her office and at the conference and she showed me where it is on the books as an unfunded project. As I was talking to Valerie, Don M., our CFO came by and told me to buy the book online and I can make it any font size. After that comment, it doesn't look good. Valerie told me that the priority in publishing literature in ASL and more languages. Another item that many of you may not be aware of is that the copyrights for our 12 Concepts were not updated and is now a part of public domain. In literature, we discussed at length the pamphlet on spirituality. After all the discussions, the vote was 107 "For" and 11 "Against." I spoke in the minority. We were given the opportunity just prior to this discussion to take any piece of literature from the literature table. I never made it back to the table, but the only book left was the Spiritual Awakenings. I spoke out that a majority of this conference voted for this pamphlet yet this book was left on the table. Do we know what we have anymore? I don't believe so. If we carried our primary example of one drunk talking to another drunk, we would not have to concern ourselves with micromanaging. We are committed to making a Spanish PSA that will not be tracked or distributed for now. The agenda items on PSAs and videos using full faces are okay if we follow the new policies. This conference voted in favor, with 15 opposed, of having the archives be a standing committee. There are so many items that I have that may answer any of your questions. My brain cannot organize my thoughts very well, so please bear with me. I am sorry to have had these health problems, which prevented me from doing the job I want to do. I know that all of the candidates standing for delegate will make Area 35 proud. Thank you and God Bless, Jon.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE- Jim K.-

Hello Members of Area 35, I hope this summer season finds you all well. It has been a wonderful time enjoying the blessing of our new daughter and the other gifts we have received from being members of this great fellowship. We are hoping to hold our final Zonal forum for Zone 2 in September or October. I need to talk with all DCM's from that Zone today to set up a location and date. This will be the final Forum of this rotation. Our 36th Annual Service workshop is scheduled to be held in Zone 3. I had a location at Cragun's for this event with a contract to be signed but was informed on Friday that they no longer can hold the event. I have a back up location in Brainerd at the Brainerd Hotel as well but am open to any other locations that DCM's can submit to me today. Brainerd is hosting their Jaycee's ice fishing tournament that weekend so there will be a great deal of extra traffic in the area. I will be happy to travel to any locations that may be adequate to check on availability but have not received any other information from DCM's. I sincerely apologize for the lateness of finding a location. I will be looking to find a location for our 2012 workshop as well before the end of my rotation to insure this does not happen again. Due to our Delegate's health, I encourage any districts or AA members who need assistance from the Delegate to please contact me first through the rest of this rotation. As your Area 35 officers, we will work to provide any assistance you may need. Thanks for this opportunity to serve in Area 35.

CHAIR-Michael (Jake) J.-

I have gotten in touch with Area 36 in regards to the Area 35/36 Joint Workshop. The plans for the joint workshop could not get finalized, so we will have to wait until next year for the Area 35/36 Joint Workshop. I recently attended the funeral for a long time member of Alcoholics Anonymous named Neal. He will truly be missed. I am looking forward to the Fall Assembly. Yours in Service, Jake.

SECRETARY- Heidi R.-

Greeting Area 35, Since the June Committee Meeting I have updated all of the Area 35 Trusted Servant Guidelines and sent them to the Area Chair for approval. They should be posted on the Area 35 website shortly and available in the next issue of the Northern Light. I have sent the Area 35 Trusted Servant Guidelines in email to everyone on my distribution list. I have also sent out welcome letters to 8 new registered groups to Area 35. I would like to welcome the Wednesday Morning Big Book Group located in Foley and apart of District 13. The Friday Night Big Book Group located also in Foley and apart of District 13. The Gateway Big Book Group located in Moorhead and apart of District 3. The Principals Before Personalities Group located in Fergus Falls and apart of District 3. The "Keep it Simple for Young Adults Group" located in Pequot Lakes and apart of District 7. The Sane and Sober Group located in Thief River Falls and apart of District 2. The Long Lake AA Group located in Isanti and apart of District 6. Finally, the Friday Morning Meditation Meeting located in Duluth and apart of District 12. The information for the Fall Assembly has been sent to Box 459 and should be in the next issue. I have made copies of the flyer for the Fall Assembly and sent an email copy to everyone on my distribution list. The June Committee Meeting Minutes has been sent out and if you have any questions about them please feel free to come see me. If anyone would like to be added to should be a part of my distribution list and receive emails of the Area Minutes, flyers, and any other related Area information; please give me your name and email address. If someone does not have access to email and would still like to receive the minutes and flyer by mail, you can also give me that information and I will be sure to mail you the information. Yours in Service, Heidi

TREASURER- Sarah K.-

Greetings Area 35! Glad to be here with you today. I have three reports on the back table for you to review. I'll start with the Income Statement. Our period to date (PTD) group contributions total \$4,137.69 in group contributions! Amazing. Our budgeted PTD income is \$5,557.47. We also received \$79 in PTD birthday contributions-wonderful! Happy birthday to you all. Please review the Group Contributions Listing report for further information. Interest totaled \$5.33 bringing our total PTD income to \$4,222.02. Our PTD expenses total \$1,013.08. Our budgeted PTD expenses are \$2371.72. Please see the Detailed Expenditures report for more detailed information on this. Thus, Area 35 has a total of \$21,003.45 available for service (including the \$6,000.00 prudent reserve.) Our year to date (YTD) income totals \$17,020.03, budgeted YTD income totals \$23,076.13, YTD expenses total \$15,336.48, budgeted YTD expenses total \$24849.40. Thank you to all groups and individuals who have contributed to the Area. Your continuing support is greatly appreciated. We utilize the funds to provide ongoing services desired by the Area, including a huge and amazing Archives repository, website, group contact records, regular Area meetings, sharing of information and various workshops. Thank you also to Tim R. of District 13 for being so diligent in keeping me updated with accurate group names and numbers. I would really appreciate any other District members who could look over the group contributions report and let me know of any corrections to group names or numbers. Please let me know if I can be of service in any way to your group or district. I would love to come visit and hear about how your groups deal with financial issues, and possibly talk (even briefly) about self-support. Yours in service, Sarah K.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS

TREATMENT- Robert (Butch) R. –

We met as a committee this morning with groups 12, 15, 8, and 9 represented. Everything seems to be going well in the various districts. The only concern is getting people to commit to speaking in the treatment centers. It was mentioned by District 12 that they are looking at reimbursing speakers for the gas it take to drive to the treatment centers. District 12 is still looking into the legality of doing this. Some speaker meetings may have to go from have a signup sheet for a month in advanced to a week in advanced. In the Northern Light my sobriety date was omitted from the Delegate's resume. My sobriety date is January 12th, 1999 and I have 12 ½ years of sobriety.

DISTRICT 15- Sandy H. –

(Continued on page 18)

(Continued from page 17)

August 1st, we held our District Meeting in Albany. We held our elections at this time (we voted at the July meeting to hold the elections at this time). I am proud to say District 15 members stepped up for this new rotation. Pete B. will be the new DCM; Tom H. is the new Secretary; Clint J. is the new Treasurer; Tom H. is the new Treatment Chair, Corrections Chair, and Literature Chair; Sue N. is the new CPC/PI and Grapevine Chair; and Doreen L. is the new Archives Chair.

DISTRICT 9- Chuck R. – Not present; Report given by Jon

District 9 is having a meeting (same weekend as Keep it Simple) to look at starting a Beginner's Meeting. We are having an Old-timer's Meeting that will be held in October. Everything else in District 9 seems to be going well.

PUBLIC INFORMATION-Roger R –

I have been worrying on organizing volunteers for the 2011 AA booth at the MN State Fair. Area 35 has three two hour shifts open (unstaffed) at this year's AA State Fair Booth. Area 36 staffs this booth for 12 days and we (Area 35) cover the booth for two days each year. This is a great service opportunity for Area 35. I have worked in this booth for several years and find it to be a good way to carry our message. This is also a great opportunity for districts and home groups in Area 35 to engage in some AA service at the statewide level. All it takes is for a DCM or GSR to come forward and sign up for a shift - and then ensure that several AA members cover that shift. This is also a nice opportunity for members of a district or home group to spend a day together at the State Fair! The following shifts are open at this time: Saturday August 27: 8:45 -11:00 and Sunday August 28: 3-5PM; and 5-7PM. I need the following from volunteers who commit to working a shift at the MN AA State Fair Booth.

A solid commitment for 2-3 people for each shift and the name of a person responsible for each shift and that persons phone number, email address and snail mailing address. Please feel free to bring volunteer information to me via email. We had 6 members attend our PI Breakout meeting this morning. Mark from District 7 reported that they have a new assistance line operation and have a booth at the Crow Wing County Fair. Jeff from District 5 reported that they had provided information racks at 5 county fairs and produced new meeting schedules for the new Alano Club. Charles from District 8 reported that they printed 3,000 meeting schedules, has had a phone line for 3 months, and 16 to 25 people are attending their Beginner's Meeting. Tim from District 13 has been widely distributing meeting schedules (motels, probation, and SCSU), they have three radio stations airing PSA's, are planning a Beginner's Meeting to be held in the SCSU sober dorm, and are looking for Spanish speaking volunteers to man the phone line. I am also working on a proposal to display AA information at MN highway rest stops through Explore Minnesota. I was directed by the PI Committee to coordinate this effort with Area 36. In service, Roger.

DISTRICT 7- Mark N. –

The races are on and the tourist season is in full swing. The picnic was a success with lots of great food and fellowship, nice to sit around and chat in the sun. The Crow Wing County fair booth worked well with volunteers for every shift and plenty of interest showing by the folks walking by. It looks like it's a go on the new call forwarding that we will be changing over to with the Central Lakes AA help line. We hope to roll it out at this August meeting. We are also planning a Cooperation with the Professional Community {CPC} luncheon for the 11th of October at 11:00am at the Sawmill Inn in Brainerd. We are asking groups to sponsor professional and bring them to lunch to learn a little about AA. Other things we are working on are, planning for the coming rotation of the District committee members and chairs; it's a good time to think about AA service work, it's good for your sobriety. We are also still kicking around the idea for a District 7 website, and we will be planning a special meeting for the 3rd Thursday in December. There are events coming up this fall that are must do's for service minded AA folks, one is the West Central Regional Forum September 9th to 11th in Davenport Iowa, as well as the Fall Area 35 Assembly in Bemidji MN October 1st and 2nd. Hope all is well with you and that you are at peace with yourself and the world in which you dwell. Yours in service Mark N.

DISTRICT 11- Gary H. – Not present; Report given by Doug N.

District 11 commitments are being fulfilled in our jail and prison meetings. District 11 is also looking for a new DCM.

GROUP RECORDS-Laurie R. –

Hi everyone, as always thank you for allowing me to serve. I mailed the Northern Light on Tuesday, so if you have not received it yet, I assure it is on its way. I continue to update the GSO database and pass on the changes to Steve L. our Area 35 webmaster when needed so that he can make the necessary updates to the website. I continue to update the aameetinglocator.com as well. Thanks to everyone who continue to call or email me with changes. The information is only as accurate as everyone makes it. Reminder if your group wants to be on the Area 35 website meeting listing and aameetinglocator.org, your group needs to be registered with GSO and active. To be considered active your group must have either a primary contact or GSR and at least one meeting time. I have registered two new groups in Area 35 they are Serenity Seekers in Motley and Midtown AA in St. Cloud. One final thing if you would like to have a flier inserted into the Northern Light I need 600 fliers and a check for \$75 made out to postmaster. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. Yours in Service, Laurie

NORTHERN LIGHT-Daniel R. - Not present; Report submitted and read by Steve L.

Please take note that the deadline for submission for the next issue of the newsletter is August 29th. I want to encourage each of you here to submit a service related article that I can keep on hand so that if I have space I can add it to the newsletter. Also, submit any sharing session or service event reports. To submit an article you must include a Title, First Name and Last initial and City or Town you are from as stated in the NL around page 11. Sorry I could not be with you but I have a family event I need to be at today. I'm probably eating corn or building a sand castle or playing horse shoes right now, sorry! I did add one article submitted by John D. from St. Cloud called AA and the Armed Forces that can be found on page 13. Once I completed this issue I had someone locally look it over then sent it out to most of you to check out for me for anonymity breaks, spelling errors, contextual malformed or missing text. I got two responses back. I have to thank JoAnne N. for her diligence once again. She found that I had omitted Butch's sobriety statement that is at the end of the resumes. I added it and asked the printer if they could accept the change but it was too late to stop the presses. I apologize for this oversight to Butch and all of you. Just to update in this report Butch has 12 1/2 years of sobriety. I did update this for the online version and also added a short article by JoAnne who shares a story from the life of one of our past servants who recently passed Neil H. called "A Friend of Ours" on page 16. We don't normally do this kind of thing because there are so many who have passed recently but how can I say no to JoAnne "Sorry I can't". See you all at The Fall Assembly. Thanks for allowing me to serve! Daniel

DISTRICT 2- Rodney P. -

Greetings from District 2! I do not have a lot to report, no major problems. All I have to report are the blessing of recovery. In the spirit of rotation our district will be holding elections at our September meeting. With the Fall Assembly being held in Bemidji hopefully the newly elected can attend. The only other thing I can think of is the Archives Workshop on August 20, 1pm at Seven Clans Casino in Thief Rivers Falls. Come and join us.

DISTRICT 16- Mary S. –

Hello – My name is Mary and I am the DCM for District 16. District 16 will be having a Workshop at the Harris Township Hall on Saturday, October 8th from 10:00am to 3:00 pm. Scott Johnson and Dan Hess will be the facilitators and the workshop will be on AA History and Present day AA. Hopefully a lot of people will come to learn more about AA and its structure. I left some flyers on the table in the back of the room. We are going to have elections in September for officers and committee members. Griffin, our PI/CPC Chair printed new AA Directories for the rest of 2011. I've been visiting AA meetings in my district and meeting with fellow AA members. I attended the Dist 9 – Dist 16 meeting in Hibbing to hear our Delegate speak about his trip to New York. We listened to a tape recording and then ate some grilled hot dogs and hamburgers and various pot luck foods that people brought. I had a great time visiting with others. I'm looking forward to the Fall Assembly and I have my room reserved. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

CORRECTIONS- Kelly D. –

We met this morning in our action committee meeting and there were 8 in attendance. We had representation from Districts 8, 9, 13, 21 and 3. Brent from District 21 reported that their jail meetings are being covered and he has not had any inmates requesting AA contacts lately from me. He shared that an inmate two hours out of prison however made a call when released and was at a meeting that night. He reported that they are the hosting District for the Fall Assembly and they are busy trying to get people to help out with it. Rodney from District 12 reported that they have meetings going into the Superior county jail once a week for the males and a few months ago they started going in once every two weeks with the females. Jeff from District 13 reported that they have a new warden at the St. Cloud prison that has requested that all the volunteers going in needed to be certified. They lost a few volunteers after finding out that they had to go to a 3 hour orientation but have since then got 3 new volunteers. They were not able to go in the 3 weeks during the state shut down but are now bringing meetings back in again. He reported that their jail meetings are being covered in their District. Ray from District 3 reported that they are working on getting meetings in Ottertail County again and they have a couple of individuals that have filled out the paper work. He reported that they are going into Becker County jail weekly and that a group from Purham is covering it. Jerry from District 8 reported that their responsibilities are being met. He reported that Thistledeew had a banquet for the female volunteers. John from District 9 reported that they have volunteers going into Nerk but it is a struggle to get volunteers. I sent out an email to all DCM's in Zone 3 a few months ago asking that they get together and give me a date and location of where they would like Butch, Area 35 Treatment Chair and I have our last Zonal Workshop this fall. Roger, Area 35 PI Chair and Doug, Area 35 CPC Chair would like to join us at this workshop. It would be a great opportunity to get others interested in service in that zone. I have not heard back from anyone however. I met with Mary, Area 36 contact program coordinator last Monday for coffee and she showed me how the program we are involved with them works. I cannot get over the volume of inmates that request AA contacts through this program all over the state of Minnesota. With both areas doing the Transitional Fairs in the prisons the numbers continue to rise. As I mention so many times in my reports, thank you to everyone that have been willing to be a contact for these inmates. I have heard some wonderful stories on how inmates are getting to meetings right away upon release. I believe that this is 12th step work at its finest! I will be attending my last Transitional Fair of my rotation in Moose Lake on September 1st. Thank you to the Area 35 and groups for the financial support and the opportunity to be able to do this. I will be volunteering at the Mille Lacs County Fair AA booth in my home District 5 and also will be volunteering at the State Fair again this year. I look forward to attending the West Central Regional Forum in Davenport, Iowa in September. Thank you all for allowing me to be of service. Kelly D.

DISTRICT 3- Jim S. –

(Continued on page 19)

(Continued from page 18)

District 3 held our first Round Up back on July 8, 9 and 10. It was a great success. We currently have all of our positions filled. Donations are still coming in so we are able to fulfill our financial obligations. We have created a new position, the title escapes me but the purpose is to facilitate communication between district 3 and the Fargo, Moorhead Intergroup being they provide activities and services in the Moorhead area which lies within District 3. We are having a GSR workshop Sept 17th at the Perham Alano Club. NOTE: BEING WE ARE HOLDING A ZONAL FORUM OCT 29TH COVERING MUCH OF THE SAME INFO AS THE GSR WORKSHOP WE HAVE CANCELED THE WORKSHOP. We have a meeting in the Ottertail City Jail thanks to our new corrections chair Ray B. In Service, Jim S.

DISTRICT 4- Dee Dee B.- Not present; Report submitted and read by Jeff C.

Hello from District 4. Thank you to Jeff C for his willingness to serve and read this report. Our last District meeting was July 9th at Kensington with 10 in attendance. We finished up our second round of discussions on the Twelve Concepts. Starting in October we are going to go over one item each month from our District 4 inventory prior to discussing old business. Our next District meeting will be August 13th in Herman. The District 4 Officers are going to meet before the regular District meeting to discuss concerns and upcoming events. We are grateful to have so many people willing to serve and carry the message. The District Meeting moved from September 10th to September 17th so we avoid conflicts with other AA events. The Lakes Area Alano which hosts a lot of the Alexandria meetings has moved to 1604 Jefferson Street, Alexandria. We still have a few change forms to get a contact for. Thank you to Steve and Laurie for updating the website and group records. For Alexandria you can call 320-762-1116 to get a recording of the current meetings and times. District 4 purchased five literature racks to display at Grant, Pope, Stevens, Douglas, and Traverse County Fairs. We have pamphlets, meeting lists, and helpline tear sheets in the racks. These racks are then donated to either the County Social Services office or Probation. We have had a wonderful response from the fairs and others involved to set this up. Thank you to Jeff C our PI/CPC Chair for your work on this. One of our Co-Corrections Chairs Jim M has resigned. He has been unable to attend the District meetings as he is carrying the message by having a Saturday AA meeting in Osakis. Osakis is a smaller meeting but during the summer they do get some vacationers. Jim has been an example carrying the message to Bell Hill Recovery Center and the Douglas County Jail each month while being active in 2 weekly AA meetings. Thank you Jim! Yours in service, Dee Dee

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (C.P.C) -Doug N. -

At the Committee Meeting this morning District 7 will be having a CPC luncheon on October 11th at 11am. One member of the committee felt it was better to have luncheons on Fridays than another day of the week. In District 6, they had a luncheon on a Saturday that seemed to be successful. The day of the week all depends on the attendance you get at the luncheon. Right now, GSO does not mail out copies of Quarterly Report to Area Committee Members or Groups. GSO only mail Quarterly Reports to district members due to the cost. Also right now GSO does pay the cost of having literature at some national conferences; however they did not supply the cost for the Juveniles Corrections Conference that was held in Duluth. When the next conference is held in Duluth, we will need to make sure Area 35 approves the cost.

DISTRICT 13- Steve J. - Not present; Report submitted and read by Scott

The District has decided to go out and visit all the groups that don't have a GSR. We have 19 groups that have no registered GSR. The DCM, Alt. DCM and Chair members are going to split up the list and visit all the groups over the next month. Finances have been a big topic the last 2 months. Last month we had to go into our prudent reserve for the first time. This was talked about at our July District meeting and the GSR's said they would take back the message to their groups that we had some financial needs. The response was great. In July are donations doubled. We still have work to do but it was so great to see how people responded to help another alcoholic. Additional orders have come in from groups during the past month for literature. These orders have been placed and filled. The pamphlets used at the St Cloud Alano Club was been projected at approximately \$300.00 per year. There are actually 7 different racks throughout the club that go through a significant amount of pamphlets. The Fall Roundup is in October. I am projecting the need for about \$500.00 worth of literature inventory to appropriately stock this event. The chair will be requesting these funds at the district meeting. July has brought us back to bringing the message to those inside jails and prisons who still suffer. They continue to express their gratitude to all who support the AA program. Please accept my thanks for all you do. We have several new volunteers for both Stearns Co Jail and the St Cloud Correctional Facility. Gayle S. has volunteered to monitor the Corrections PO Box and forward inmates' mail to volunteers. Prisoners nationwide are still waiting for pen pals. If you are interested please let me know. This program only involves writing letters to inmates who are usually at least 5 states away from Minnesota. I will work on seeing if we can use the corrections PO Box for return mail, allowing one **not** to have to give out their home address. Meeting schedules have been delivered to all of the motels in the District, Stearns County Probation, Effective Living, Dream Center, Detox, SCSU Student Services, Sobriety First, Recovery Plus, Benton County Jail, MN Travel Center & the East Haven Halfway house. There is a new registered Group in our District. The group is called "Midtown AA". The meeting location is 3333 West Division Street. This is a closed meeting that meets on Saturdays at 7PM in Suite 210. District will have an Alcoholics Anonymous booth at the Benton County Fair. Dates for the Fair are August 1st-7th. Tim D is the chairperson for this event. A fellow AA member has agreed to lend us a flat screen TV and a DVD player to play the "HOPE" video at this event. All of the meeting location information for District 13 listed on the Area 35 web page has been updated. All information for the groups in District 13 have been updated with the Area Group Secretary (This included both websites & G.S.O.). Charter Communications is Airing the message: If you want to drink that's your business, if you want to STOP, we can help. Call Alcoholics Anonymous at [320-202-1895](tel:320-202-1895) on their Public Service Announcement Channel. Spirit 92.9 & KVSC are also playing the Alcoholics Anonymous PSA's that the District donated to them. The Beginners Group is going well, however we need every ones help in letting the newcomer know that this meeting exists. I have made copies of the meeting flyer and would ask that everyone take some back to your groups and include them as part of your groups newcomer packet. It may also help if all the GSR's suggest to their groups, that this may be another tool that sponsors could utilize and attend this meeting with their new sponsees. This group provides a Big Book to all the newcomers that are in need of one. Once again are asking groups for donations of hard cover Big Books. Thank you to all of you who have donated Big Books for this group!! This is an AA informational meeting. It rotates through four different topics each month which are the disease of alcoholism, program of recovery, unity, & other factors for recovery. The meetings are held at the Alano Club in room "C" on Wednesdays @ 7:30 PM. AA Assistance Line: All 24 shifts are currently staffed. I have finished with setting up the Recovery plus Senior's Meeting that is on Wed. pm from 1:30-2:30. We have committed people that are willing to take a meeting in once a month as well as a sub lists if they cannot make it. Thanks again to all the G.S.R's for spreading word. The Children's Home, Clara's House, Effective Living Center, Central MN Mental Health, Our House, Recovery Plus and Beginners Meetings all have meetings being put on by A.A. members. A.A. members know that sobriety is a gift and in order to keep it, they must give it away. G.S.R.'s please go back to your meetings and ask if there are people taking meetings to the still suffering alcoholic. If you get any to raise their hand please give them a round of applause. As I look ahead to the final months of this Chair position, I feel grateful and blessed. Grateful for all that we have accomplished in carrying the message, and blessed for all the help along the way I have received. We are taking a meeting inside to the VA on August 18th. There are 50 people expected in attendance. Chaplains Training scheduled for July 11th was cancelled per their request. Training on AA and the Clergy will take place on September 12th. The Beginner's Meeting at Sobriety First continues. The meeting is held on the 4th Wed of every month. Last meeting there were 12 people present. Tim R. volunteered to take my Beginners' Meeting for the first Wednesday in August. SCSU wants a Beginner's Meeting held on campus. GSRs are asked to take that message back to their groups. Cara N. and John D. will be points of contact for those interested in facilitating that meeting. Current students and alum are encouraged to apply. A suggested location for the meeting is the Newman Center.

DISTRICT 1- Lon G.- Not Present; Report submitted and read by Irene

Greetings from District 1. Our last District Meeting was held on July 31st with 9 members attending. We are doing O.K. financially in our district but as always our groups need to be reminded of our seventh tradition. The groups reports were given by those in attendance and our numbers seem to be about the same. We have a fun events coming up in our district and I want to mention them. August 12, 13, and 14 is the 4th annual Summer Wild Rice Round-up which will be held at the Sandhill Bible Camp, South of Fosston. Details for this event can be found on the Area website. GREAT EVENT! On Saturday, August 20th we will be hosting an Archives Workshop with District 2 to be held at Seven Clans Casino in Thief River Falls at 1pm. We are expecting an enthusiastic response and we are very grateful to Art and Brad along with Rod to make this event possible. Thank you! Saturday, September 10th our end of the season celebration will once again be held at Famers Union Campground on Lake Sarah near Erskine. Although we have struggled with attendance at this event the last few years we are committed to keeping this event on the calendar and making it work the cost is \$5 which includes: coffee and fellowship with a full afternoon of activities and potluck picnic and an evening campfire/sharing session which is always the highlight. I am very thankful to have many dedicated members in service to AA and District 1 and it is joy to work them on these great events. Respectfully in Service, Lon G.

GRAPEVINE-Dee K. -

We had 6 people in attendance with Districts 5, 8, 18, and 21 represented. In District 8 the chair has not been to the last two district meetings so they will be holding elections for the position in September. District 21 had no information to report on Grapevine. District 18 reported that they are getting old Grapevines and literature to Treatment Centers and Corrections facilities. They are also having elections next month (September). District 5 had nothing new to report. From the 61st General Service Conference there was some new information that came from the Conference Committee on Grapevine. The Committee reviewed and discussed the surveys conducted in 2010 Conference Advisory Action. A recommendation was made, in order to encourage unity and support AA Grapevine that the AA Grapevine Board established an ad hoc committee to review and determine actionable items from the AA Grapevine fellowship sharing report. The ad hoc committee should have proportional representation similar to the General Service Conference and be chaired by the Chair of the General Service Board. At the 61st General Service Conference also had an additional consideration that each home group should purchase a minimum of 2 annual subscriptions of the Grapevine. Thanks for letting me serve, Dee.

DISTRICT 18- Vern P. -

I am the new DCM for District 18. District 18 is doing well and growing. We have 3 new GSRs and registered 2 new women's groups with one in Motley and one in Long Prairie. District 18 and District 3 will be putting on a GSR workshop in September at Perham, MN. Next month District 18 will be having its gen-

(Continued on page 20)

(Continued from page 19)

eral elections. We have various chairs and committee members will be needed. We are still in need of volunteers to go into corrections. We had Round-ups held in Little Falls, MN and Browerville, MN. Staples will be hosting a camp out at Dower Lake.

DISTRICT 21- Carl B. – Not present; Report given by Stan

We had our last district meeting in July. We voted in Rob as our new secretary. The DCM was absent from the meeting but will be back in September. We had 13 groups represented at our district meeting out of 33 groups in District 21. Currently, both men and women are being served in the Beltramin County Jail. We had a request for a temporary contact for an inmate who was about to be released and someone came forward to volunteer. District 21 is looking for a Grapevine Chair. We have literature for people in the district to by and an archives display that is available for special events. Pine Manor Treatment Center is seeking speakers for its Saturday night meeting. As this is not a sanctioned AA event, members are encouraged to speak as individuals. The district meeting for September will be held on Monday the 12th at 7pm at Calvary Lutheran Church in Park Rapids. We are looking for volunteers to help at the Fall Assembly in Bemidji. The October district meeting will be held in Walker.

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 5 in attendance from 2 Districts which are Districts 2 and 16 plus the Group Records Secretary and me. Dan was wondering what you thought of putting forwarders for past delegates instead of their email addresses. Below is how I have the past delegates set up in my distribution list. It seems only fair and would look better in the NL. I would put them as JerryS-Past-Delegate-Panel56@area35.org. What do you think? Dan. It's great that DCM's are listening and taking me up on adding District pages to the web site. Since my last report at the Spring Assembly I've updated Two District Web pages District 13's map and District 7, with an inquiry from District 3 to create a page for them. I've been busy keeping the meeting list up to date with correct and current information from Laurie. Small glitch with meeting list you might have noticed that there is no Maps Available be fixed shortly. I've been busy screening and posting meeting events posted on the calendar. I've updated the new/change meeting form. I'm working on adding Paypal to the site it should be ready soon. I was trying to get it ready for today buy there are a couple of aesthetic design quirks yet to be worked out, along with insuring complete stability with all the main browsers with and without java support. We are still looking at recoding the Meeting list page to be able to be more printer friendly. We have run into a small snag. Dan and I had a Computer Conference call on Tuesday June 14 to look at what is going on with the problem. Wanted to ask if (BIG IF) need be can we out source (Pay a pro coder to look over the problem and offer a fix)? I'm also working on adding 35 Trusted Servant Guidelines to the Area 35 Website. I need the updated Guidelines I have some. If you have an event that you would like on the website please email them to me or upload through the website. Please when making fliers remember to give a physical address like 123 recovery circle NOT just a location like town hall, Community Center. And please upload fliers to me in PDF or Word Doc formats. Now a little summation about the Web site usage for the month on June We had 42,480 hits from 1640 unique sites like Google 482, Yahoo 69, MS Bling 45, AOL 4 and others. The busiest day was June 20 from 83 visitors with 2675 hits, busiest weekday was Mondays. How the site was contacted. 63.8% from Direct address / Bookmark / Link in email; 15.2 % from Links from an Internet Search Engine; and 20.8% from Links from an external page (other web sites except search engines) Top - <http://www.usrecovery.info/AA/Minnesota.htm> 5247 - <http://www.theagapecenter.com/AAinUSA/Minnesota.htm> 132 - <http://alcoholism.about.com/gi/o.htm> 29 - <http://www.aa.org/lang/en/redirect.cfm> 17 - <http://sbrg.vndv.com> 17.

Now a little summation about the Web site usage for the month on July We had 49,327 hits from 1,352 unique sites like Google 620, Yahoo 9, MS Bling 7, AOL 8 and others. The busiest day was July 5 from 83 visitors with 2125 hits, busiest weekday was Tuesdays. How the site was contacted. 64.3% from Direct address / Bookmark / Link in email; 17.1 % from Links from an Internet Search Engine: Google 616; Yahoo 9; and 18.5% from Links from an external page (other web sites except search engines)

-Top 5 sites <http://www.usrecovery.info/AA/Minnesota.htm> 238 - <http://www.aa.org/lang/en/redirect.cfm> 150

-<http://www.theagapecenter.com/AAinUSA/Minnesota.htm> 124 - <http://alcoholism.about.com/gi/o.htm> 26

- <http://aa.org/lang/en/redirect.cfm> 16 - <http://aameetinglocator.org/content/minnesota-aa-meeting-locator...> 14 Please start looking for people to fill the area chairs and action committees for the next rotation.

Humbly in service, Steven

ARCHIVES-Art A. – Not Present; Report given by Brad, Archivist

The Archives Committee opened with 6 attending representing 3 Districts. Rita from District 6 introduced Jack, District 5's first Archives Chair. Andrew from District 13 has made great progress on a District Action Book. He is also working on group histories and is going to start interviewing past district trusted servants about their service experiences. He is also starting planning on a 70th Anniversary celebration of A.A. in St. Cloud for 2013. Kathy from District 6 is working on gathering Archival material. Mary from District 16 Reports they do not have an Archives.

ARCHAVIST- Brad I. –

Since the June Committee meeting I have given a history talk and set up a display in Long Prairie for a district Founders Day Celebration. I submitted an article to the Northern Light. I assembled everything I need to start digitalizing the Father John Doe records. I have had several marathon copying sessions at Kinko's in preparation for the National Archives workshop and St. Cloud round-up. There is a zonal Archives workshop in Thief River Falls at the Seven Clans Casino on the 20th of August where I will be presenting. I am attending the Regional Forum in Davenport and the National Archives Workshop in Helena in September where I will have an 8 foot table. I am putting together a special display tracing the path to my finding the "lost" Dr. Bob article. The next scheduled full display is the St. Cloud Round-up in October. Recent contributions to the Archives are a 1942 book "Drunks are Square Pegs" by Charles Clapp Jr. and a February 1950" Taboo magazine with an article about The 12th Step House in New York City. Please keep those District minutes coming in a digital format. Thank you again for this opportunity to be of service to you.

DISTRICT 5-Rita D. – Not present; No report given; Report submitted

Greetings everyone! Well, I had another very busy but awesome month of service for Alcoholics Anonymous. I want to start with letting you know that I was unable to attend the committee meeting in Aitkin on August 6th due to personal family obligations. Jake C. brought our Northern Light and the final Conference Report. Also, the Into Action group bought 12 Big Books from the Area Literature Chair which Jake also brought back for us....these will be given to Skip for Sherburne County Jail. Thanks Jake for bringing these items back for me I really appreciate your help. Let's all keep our Area Delegate Jon C. in our prayers, it was announced at the Committee meeting that Jim K. our Alternate Delegate is stepping up and helping Jon with his duties and responsibilities. I have been out to visit a few more groups at the Princeton Alano this month and plan on getting out to as many groups as possible this coming month. Our PI/CPC luncheon went well and a report will be given under that position. The Mille Lacs County Fair went well. I was there every day and what an awesome experience to be a part of this. Literature was taken from possible future AA members, concerned family members and a few professionals. I want to thank all who volunteered to be a part of this service opportunity...so a HUGE THANKS to Desi, Jake C. (little Jake), Kelly D., Joe, Skip, Tracy, Beth, Deb and Charlie!!! While I was there I had the opportunity to visit AA members who attend the Princeton and Milaca Alano meeting and they had lots of questions regarding the District and service work...my hopes are that they come to the upcoming Workshop!! A reminder that there will be a Service Workshop on September 17th....please take flyers and bring to any/all groups you attend. I plan on going to WCRF September 9th-11th. I feel this is a great opportunity for gathering more knowledge on Service work from GSO board members. I will be going on my own dime as the District has other financial obligations. I will also be working the AA booth at the State Fair on August 27th, if anyone is interested in going with please see me!! Also ATTENTION ALL GROUPS...PLEASE contact me @ dcms5@area35.org if I can be of service in any way for your group. Grateful to be of service, Rita

DISTRICT 6-Kathie G. –

Our last District Meeting was July 21st with 8 people present. We discussed the idea of having a Service Workshop for District 6 but decided to have the district officers do a presentation at each of our 28 meetings to read as many AA members as possible. If we can invite more people into service, we may be able to have a workshop at a later date. WE also discussed what we would want on our Area 35, District web page and how it could be a tool that would help us get more of our members involved. Treatment and jail meetings continue to be covered. ON July 16th and 17th our North Branch Group had a booth at the Chisago County Fair. They reported that it was a good turnout. Saturday, August 20th the Isanti Alano will have their annual Pig Roast in Isanti, Minnesota. There will be AA and Alanon speaker, a horse shoe tournament, and music with lots of fun and fellowship. Yours in Service, Kathie.

LITERATURE-Bob K. –

There were 6 present. District 21 is restocking their literature and District 18 is taking their old literature to correction and treatment centers. District 5 took inventory and will have literature at the county fair. District 8 is making beginner's packets. The Treatment, Corrections, Public Information, and Special Needs Work Book/Kits have gone up to \$18.00. The Braille Big Book, This Is AA, and Is AA for You will go into the Area Archives. We have VCR tapes HOPE, CARRYING THE MESSAGE BEHIND THE WALLS, and AA INSIDE VIEW. They will go to Corrections for use. A lot of us think The Final Conference Report is boring reading material but starting on page 14 are "PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS" they are about 1/2 a page long. These can be good meeting topics so check them out. Thanks for allowing me to serve, Bob

DISTRICT 8- Randy A. –

(Continued on page 21)

(Continued from page 20)

Hello from District 8. We are doing great in the district with all the commitments being fulfilled and no other activities going on. We had our last district meeting on July 12th in Virginia, MN; we had no host group for the month but were fortunate enough to rent a backup facility. We had 16 GSR's or group contacts represented and a total of 31 present. We have a checkbook balance of \$2,636.77 - \$500.00 in our prudent reserve for an available balance of \$2,136.77. Two groups had open speaker meeting this past month the Cotton Big Book Group and the Ely Happy Joyous & Free Group which were well attended. Under old business: we discussed the two proposals from District 5 and came to a group consensus on both issues. We discussed the ordering of new meeting schedules with the appropriate information changes being completed. We also had an election for our Alternate PI/CPC position and had two nominees selected. Accordingly Donna H. was declared the winner by majority vote by a margin of 12 to 8. Under new business: we had a motion on the floor for "any AA member requesting District 8 minutes must submit request in writing for approval by the District." A second was received and vote by raised hands was taken 7 voted in favor and 15 voted against the motion. Accordingly the motion was defeated. We also discussed the issue of having a pro/con session and after lengthy discussion and some confusion, the district voted to have no further discussion on the smoking issue. In closing, we have two upcoming speaker meetings hosted by the Aurora Big Book Group on August 20th at 7:00pm and the Biwabik Sunday Night Group on August 21st at 7:00pm. We will have our next district meeting on September 8th at International Falls, MN which will be our district elections for officers and committee chairs.

DISTRICT 12- Jana M. – Not present; Report given by Servando

Greetings from District 12! WE are currently having our meetings at the Duluth Alano Club thru September. We are planning our annual trip up the North Shore in October. September we will be having our elections and are hoping for a good turnout. We are encouraging our current chair people to organize their records and contacts to pass onto our next rotation. We are currently looking into using some of our money to reimburse volunteers for fuel expenses involved in chairing treatment and corrections meetings. We also have a new service committee which is the Duluth Area Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous. We are looking forward to getting more people interested in service work by making it attractive. Thank you for allowing me to serve, Servando.

OLD BUSINESS

FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE –

We met as a committee this morning at the Aitkin Committee Meeting and had four members present. We reviewed the Treasurer's Report for period IV, June 5th to July 28th. We reviewed bank statements, reconciliation reports, check register, and profit/loss statements. We the committee have concurred that the records match accordingly with bank statements and check register. The area 35 financial records are assumed to be accurate, concise, and up to date for period IV. We will be planning our next meeting prior to the Area 35 Assembly in October and will be discussing the composition of the next rotation. We currently have one Past Delegate, one DCM, one Corrections Chair, our current Area 35 Chair, and our current Area 35 Treasurer. AS it currently stands, the positions on the committee are appointed positions by the Area 35 Chairperson. Anyone expressing interest in being on the committee is welcome to come and sit in on our next meeting in October to observe the review process. Any questions/concerns call any member of the committee or myself. Yours in service, Randy, Financial Oversight Committee Chairperson.

FALL ASSEMBLY 2011 –

The Fall Assembly will be October 1st and 2nd in Bemidji, MN at the Sanford Center. Everything is set up and confirmed for this event. District 21 has been working on getting volunteers for the Fall Assembly. We will not need as many volunteers for the Fall Assembly since the Sandford Center will be in charge of the coffee. We will only need volunteers for registration. If you are from Zone I and you do have people who want to volunteer contact Carl, the DCM from District 21.

SPRING ASSEMBLY 2012–

This will be held in Zone III during the 1st weekend of April. The Area Chair will be working on finding a location and is asking DCMs from the districts in Zone III for possible locations. One concern is that the Spring Assembly falls on Easter weekend. In the past when the Spring Assembly fell on Easter weekend, we moved the assembly up a week (found in the Area 35 Action Booklet). The Area 35 Chair will review this and have a date for the 2012 Spring Assembly at the 2011 Fall Assembly.

AREA 35/36 JOINT WORKSHOP –

The plan was to have the workshop; however, Area 36 decided they do not want to have a workshop on such short notice and with no structured agenda. We are going to work with Area 36 for a Joint Workshop next year. Area 36 is still interested in having the Joint 36/36 Workshops. The next Area 35 Chair will need to get in contact with the Area 36 Chair.

NEW BUSINESS

PRO/CON DISCUSSION –

Since Area 35 has not done a pro/con discussion for a long time, we are going to try one at the Fall Assembly on a District 5 proposal, possibly on Area 35 Assembly sites. One concern was brought up about the time constraints at the Fall Assembly due to it being a voting assembly. One suggestion was to have the pro/con discussion on Saturday night. Both sides of the topic could present for 5 minutes which will keep us from taking more time on Sunday.

WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL FORUM BUDGET -

The forum will be September 9th to 11th in Davenport, IA. The Area Officers and Committee Chairs have budgeted for this event with Area 35 approval of the budget. A count was taken to see how many Area Officers and Chairs are planning to attend the forum so we can make sure the cost is covered. The Area 35 Treasury is doing well financially right now. Currently, we have nine Area Officers and Committee Chairs who are planning to attend the forum in Davenport, IA. Discussion – One Area 35 member requested that the Area Officers and Chairs attending the forum have a written report about the WCR Forum that they provide to all Area 35 members.

As Area Officers and Chairs were are responsible to the Area we serve.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS -

- Keep it Simple Weekend – August 12th to 14th at Camp Chicagami on Pleasant Lake, South of Eveleth, MN
 - 4th Annual Summer Wild Rice Round-up – August 12th to 14th at the Sandhill Bible Camp, 6 miles south of Fosston, MN
 - West Central Regional Forum – Sept. 9th to 11th at Clarion Hotel & Conference Center in Davenport, IA
 - 21st Annual Heartland Round-up – September 9th to 11th at Northern Pines in Park Rapids, MN
 - Area 35 Northern Minnesota Fall Assembly – October 1st and 2nd at Sanford Center in Bemidji, MN
 - 66th Annual Duluth Round-up – September 30th to October 2nd at Duluth Entertainment Convention Center in Duluth, MN
 - 29th Annual St. Cloud Round-up – October 28th to 30th at St. Cloud Civic Center in St. Cloud, MN
- December Committee Meeting – December 4th at Aitkin Alano Club in Aitkin, MN

CLOSED WITH THE LORDS PRAYER

2011 – AREA 35 SCHEDULE

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

Area 35 Northern MN Fall Assembly -
October 1 - 2, 2011
Sanford Center
111 Event Center Drive
Bemidji, MN
South side of Lake Bemidji
More Info on area35.org web site!

District 16 Workshop
October 8, 2011
10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous 101
Harris Township Hall

Zonal Forum Zone 2
October 29th, 2011
12 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Perham Alano Club
43452 County Hwy 34
Perham, MN

Area Meeting - December 4th - 9:00 am
Aitkin Alano Club
322 1st. Avenue N.E.
Aitkin, MN

October 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
U.S. Federal Holiday Columbus Day						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Continous Day Thanksgiving	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween					

November 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 V.O. Day	7	8	9	10	11 V.O. Day Dus	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27	28	29	30			U.S. Federal Holiday Dus

Upcoming Events in Areas 35 & 36

Note: Area 35 events take precedence!

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

66th Annual Duluth Roundup
Friday, Saturday & Sunday
September 30th, October 1st & 2nd, 2011
(DECC), Duluth, MN
Check flier on Area Event Calendar for more info!

29th Annual St. Cloud Roundup
St. Cloud Civic Center
October 28-30th
Check flier on Area Event Calendar for more info!

Founder's Day Weekend LXXI
November 25-2 2011
Doubletree Park Place Hotel
St. Louis Park, MN
www.FOUNDERSDAYMN.ORG

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 - 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 FALL ASSEMBLY
October 1&2, 2011 Bemidji
AGENDA

<div><div>9:00A.M. Registration</div><div>10:00 A.M. GSR ORIENTATION& ACTION COMMITTEE MEETINGS</div><div>11:30-A.M. LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)</div><div>1:00 Assembly Convene</div><div><div>Call to Order Open with the Serenity Prayer</div><div>Why we need a Conference</div><div>Recognize past delegates</div><div>Approval Fall Assembly Minutes</div><div>Add To Agenda</div></div><div>OFFICER REPORTS</div><div><div>Delegate-Jon C.</div><div>Alternate Delegate –Jim K.</div><div>Chair- Michael J.</div><div>Secretary-Heidi R.</div><div>Treasure-Sarah K.</div></div><div>COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS</div><div><div>LITERATURE-Bob K.</div><div>District 8- Randy A.</div><div>District 12- Jana M.</div><div>TREATMENT- Robert (butch) R.</div><div>District 15- Sandy H.</div><div>District 9- Chuck R.</div><div>PUBLIC INFORMATION-Roger R.</div><div>District 7- Mark N.</div><div>District 11- Gary H.</div><div>GROUP RECORDS-Laurie R.</div><div>NORTHERN LIGHT-Daniel R.</div><div>District 2- Rodney P.</div><div>District 16- Mary S.</div><div>CORRECTIONS-Kelly D.</div><div>District 3- Jim S.</div><div>District 4- Dee Dee B.</div></div></div>	<div><div>C.P.C-Doug N.</div><div>District 13- Steve J.</div><div>District 1- Lon G.</div><div>GRAPEVINE-Dee K.</div><div>District 18-Vern P.</div><div>District 21- Carl B.</div><div>Webmaster-Steve L.</div><div>ARCHIVES-Art A./Brad I.</div><div>District 5-Rita D.</div><div>District 6-Kathie G.</div></div> <div>4:45 P.M.</div> <div><div>GSR SHARING SESSION</div><div>DCM SHARING SESSION</div></div> <div>6:00 P.M. DINNER (On your own)</div> <div>8:00 PM Open Speaker Meeting</div> <div>Sunday October 2, 2011</div> <div><div>7:30 AM AA Meeting</div><div>9:00 Assembly Reconvenes</div><div>Business not completed Saturday</div><div>GSR Sharing Session Report</div><div>DCM Sharing Session Report</div></div> <div>OLD BUSINESS</div> <div><div>2012 Spring Assembly</div><div>Financial Oversight Committee</div><div>Assembly Sights Discussion</div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>NEW BUSINESS</div> <div><div>Nominations for West central regional Trustee</div><div>Elections for Area Officers (Delegate, Alt Delegate, chair, Treasurer, Secretary</div><div>Vote to allow incoming Area Chair to select standing committee Chairs approved at December Committee Meeting</div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div><div>Calendar of Events</div><div>TBA</div><div>Ask It Basket (Past Delegates)</div><div>Adjourn</div></div>
---	--