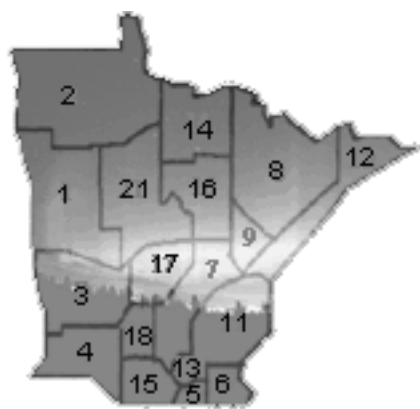


NMAA
Change Service Requested

NONPROFIT
ORG
U. S. Postage
Paid
Permit 381
St. Cloud, MN
56301



Deadline for the next
Northern Light is
November 1st, 2012

This is YOUR Newsletter.

Please send your questions or comments for publication to
Jana M. 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 2012

AREA OFFICERS

DELEGATE
JIM K.
delegate@area35.org

ALTERNATE DELEGATE
MICHAEL “JAKE” J.
Alt_delegate@area35.org

AREA CHAIR
KELLY D.
areachair@area35.org

TREASURER
STEVE L.
treasurer@area35.org

SECRETARY
MARY S.
secretary@area35.org

AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PUBLIC INFORMATION
ROBERT (BUTCH) R.
pi@area35.org

ARCHIVES
ANTONETTE F.
archives@area35.org

ARCHIVIST
BRAD I.
archivist@area35.org

CORRECTIONS
JEFF E.
corrections@area35.org

LITERATURE
SEAN D.
literature@area35.org

GRAPEVINE
CAREY A.
grapevine@area35.org

COOPERATION WITH THE
PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (C.P.C.)
ROGER R.
cpc@area35.org

TREATMENT
RANDY A.
treatment@area35.org

WEBMASTER
ROBERT B.
webmaster@area35.org

GROUP RECORDS
SANDY H.
grouprecords@area35.org

NORTHERN LIGHT
JANA M.
northernlight@area35.org

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

DISTRICT 1
IRENE J.
dcm1@area35.org

DISTRICT 2
KIM B.
dcm2@area35.org

DISTRICT 3
JIM S.
dcm3@area35.org

DISTRICT 4
JIM T.
dcm4@area35.org

DISTRICT 5
HEIDI R.
dcm5@area35.org

DISTRICT 6
DAVE A.
dcm6@area35.org

DISTRICT 7
NEIL F.
dcm7@area35.org

DISTRICT 8
ROLENE L.
dcm8@area35.org

DISTRICT 9
JOHN F.
dcm9@area35.org

DISTRICT 11
BECKY N.
dcm11@area35.org

DISTRICT 12
SERVANDO M.
dcm12@area35.org

DISTRICT 13
SCOTT B.
dcm13@area35.org

DISTRICT 15
PETE B.
dcm15@area35.org

DISTRICT 16
GENE V.
dcm16@area35.org

DISTRICT 18
NEIL R.
dcm18@area35.org

DISTRICT 21
DAVE G.
dcm21@area35.org

DISTRICTS 14 and 17
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!

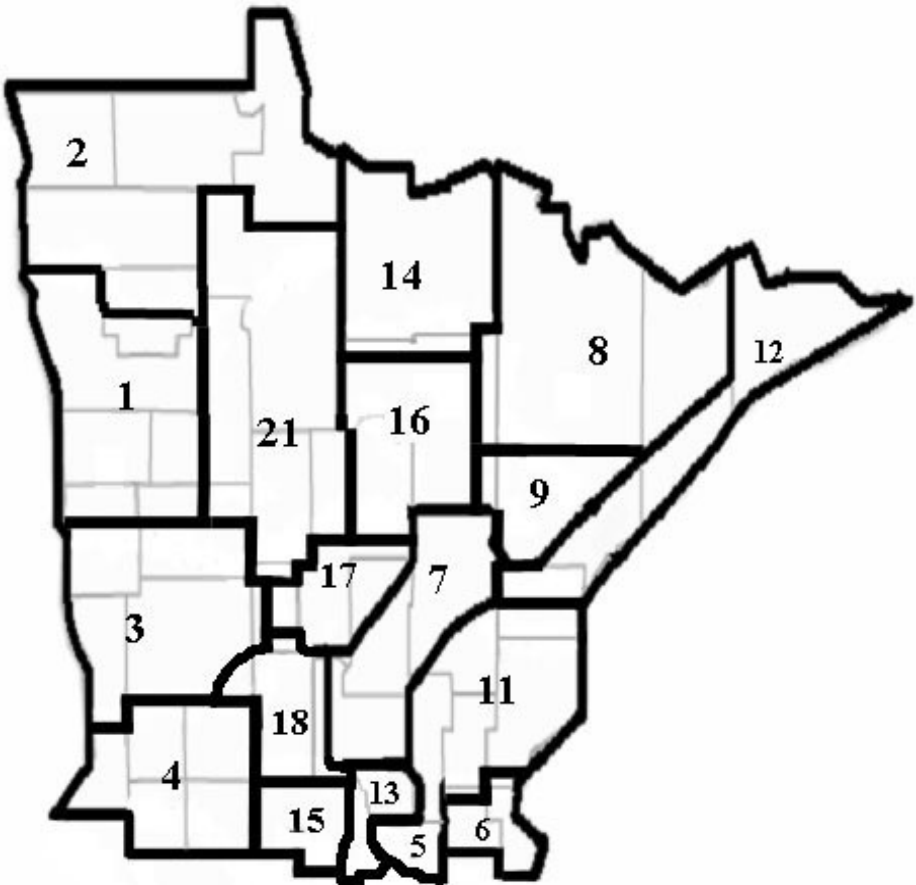
OUR PAST DELEGATES

Panel 60 Jon C.	2010-2011	Panel 26 Vern R. (deceased)	1976-1977
Panel 58 JoAnne M. N.	2008-2009	Panel 24 Gordon B. H.	1974-1975
Panel 56 Jerry S.	2006-2007	Panel 22 Frank P. J. (deceased)	1972-1973
Panel 54 Charlie C.	2004-2005	Panel 20 Clarence B. (deceased)	1970-1971
Panel 52 Tim C.	2002-2003	Panel 18 Dave H. (deceased)	1968-1969
Panel 50 Tom A.	2000-2001	Panel 16 Arno A. (deceased)	1966-1967
Panel 48 Susie A.	1998-1999	Panel 14 Donald F. (deceased)	1964-1965
Panel 46 Bill P.	1996-1997	Panel 12 Donna T. (deceased)	1962-1963
Panel 44 Bruce B.	1994-1995	Panel 10 Bob B. (deceased)	1960-1961
Panel 42 Greg G. (deceased)	1992-1993	Panel 8 Pearl N. (deceased)	1958-1959
Panel 40 Bob J.	1990-1991	Panel 6 Waldo H. (deceased)	1956-1957
Panel 38 Scott J.	1988-1989	Panel 4 Wendell H. (deceased)	1954-1955
Panel 36 Louie H.	1986-1987	Panel 2 Arthur R. (deceased)	1952-1953
Panel 34 Bob P.	1984-1985		
Panel 32 Tom L.	1982-1983		
Panel 30 Don Mellen (deceased)	1981-1982		
Panel 28 Garfield (Duffy) S. (deceased)	1978-1979		

The Delegate’s Duties

- Though the high point is the Conference meeting, the delegate’s job goes on year-round and involves all aspects of the Conference structure. The delegate should:

 - Attend the Conference meeting in April, fully prepared. Immediately upon election, every delegate is put on the G.S.O. mailing list to receive Conference materials.
 - Communicate the actions of the Conference to area committee members and encourage them to pass on this information, and the delegate’s enthusiasm, to groups and to intergroups/central offices. If an area is too large for the delegate to cover in person, he or she will ask area officers and committee members to share the load.
 - Be prepared to attend all area, state/provincial, and regional service meetings and assemblies. From these meetings, delegates come to better understand their own areas and can make suggestions for the Conference agenda. Here, too, they come in contact with A.A. members who might not be reached otherwise.
 - Help area committees obtain financial support for the area and G.S.O.
 - Provide leadership in solving local problems involving the A.A. Traditions.
- Remind G.S.R.s to inform groups and individuals about the A.A. Grapevine and Conference-approved literature.
 - Cooperate with G.S.O. in obtaining information—for example, making sure that up-to-date information reaches G.S.O. in time to meet the deadline for each Issue of the A.A. directory and helping carry out the triennial membership surveys.
 - Visit groups and districts in the area whenever possible.
 - Work closely with committee members and officers, sharing experience throughout the year. After G.S.R.s and committee members have reported on the Conference, learn from these A.A.s how groups and members have reacted.
 - Assume added responsibility if the area chair and alternate chair are unable to serve. Or, if an area committee is not functioning effectively, the delegate may take an active role in remedying the situation.
 - Keep the alternate delegate fully informed and active, so that the alternate can replace the delegate in an emergency.
 - Late in the second term, work with newly elected delegates to pass along a basic knowledge of Conference proceedings and problems.
- (from The A.A. Service Manual, pages S44-S45)



Area 35
Northern Minnesota

Zone I

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

Zone II

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

<p>District 1</p> <p>2nd Sunday of even months, 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>Fertile Community Center</p> <p>101 S. Mill St., Fertile, MN 56540</p>	<p>District 7</p> <p>3rd Thursday of Month, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>First Congregational United Church</p> <p>415 Juniper Street</p> <p>Brainerd, MN 56401</p>	<p>District 15</p> <p>1st Monday of Month, 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>Albany Community Center</p> <p>741 Lake Ave.</p> <p>Albany, MN 56307</p>
<p>District 2</p> <p>2nd Sunday of Odd Months, 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>First Lutheran Church</p> <p>210 Park Ave. N.</p> <p>Middle River, MN 56737</p>	<p>District 8</p> <p>Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Contact DCM for location “It Rotates”</p>	<p>District 16</p> <p>1st Wednesday of Month, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>United Methodist Church</p> <p>1701 S.E. 8th Ave.</p> <p>Grand Rapids, MN 55744</p> <p>Handicap Accessible, Non-Smoking</p>
<p>District 3</p> <p>3rd Sunday of Month, 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Perham Alano Club</p> <p>Hwy 34</p> <p>Perham, MN 56573</p>	<p>District 9</p> <p>Last Sunday of Month, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Hibbing Alano Club</p> <p>3725 1st Avenue</p> <p>Hibbing, MN 55746</p>	<p>District 18</p> <p>1st Tuesday of Month, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Long Prairie Alano Club</p> <p>21 2nd Ave.</p> <p>Long Prairie, MN 56347</p>
<p>District 4</p> <p>3rd Saturday of Month, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Email dcm4@area35.org for location (It Rotates)</p> <p>Potluck at 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Round Robin at 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>District 11</p> <p>1st Tuesday of Month, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Peace Lutheran</p> <p>2177 Hwy 18</p> <p>Finlayson, MN 55735</p>	<p>District 21</p> <p>2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Bemidji Alano Club</p> <p>3802 Greenleaf Ave NW</p> <p>Bemidji, MN 56601</p>
<p>District 5</p> <p>3rd Monday of Month, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Freshwaters Church</p> <p>12475 273rd Ave NW</p> <p>Zimmerman, MN 55398</p>	<p>District 12</p> <p>3rd Thursday 6:30 p.m. - Email DCM at dcm12@area35.org for rotating location!</p>	<p>Districts 14, and 17</p> <p>Not currently active or unknown</p>
<p>District 6</p> <p>3rd Thursday of Month, 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Spring Lake Lutheran Church</p> <p>8440 Erickson Rd. N.E.</p> <p>North Branch, MN 55056</p>	<p>District 13</p> <p>1st Monday of Month, 7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.</p> <p>St. Cloud Alano Club</p> <p>127 7th Ave. NE</p> <p>Saint Cloud, MN 56301</p>	

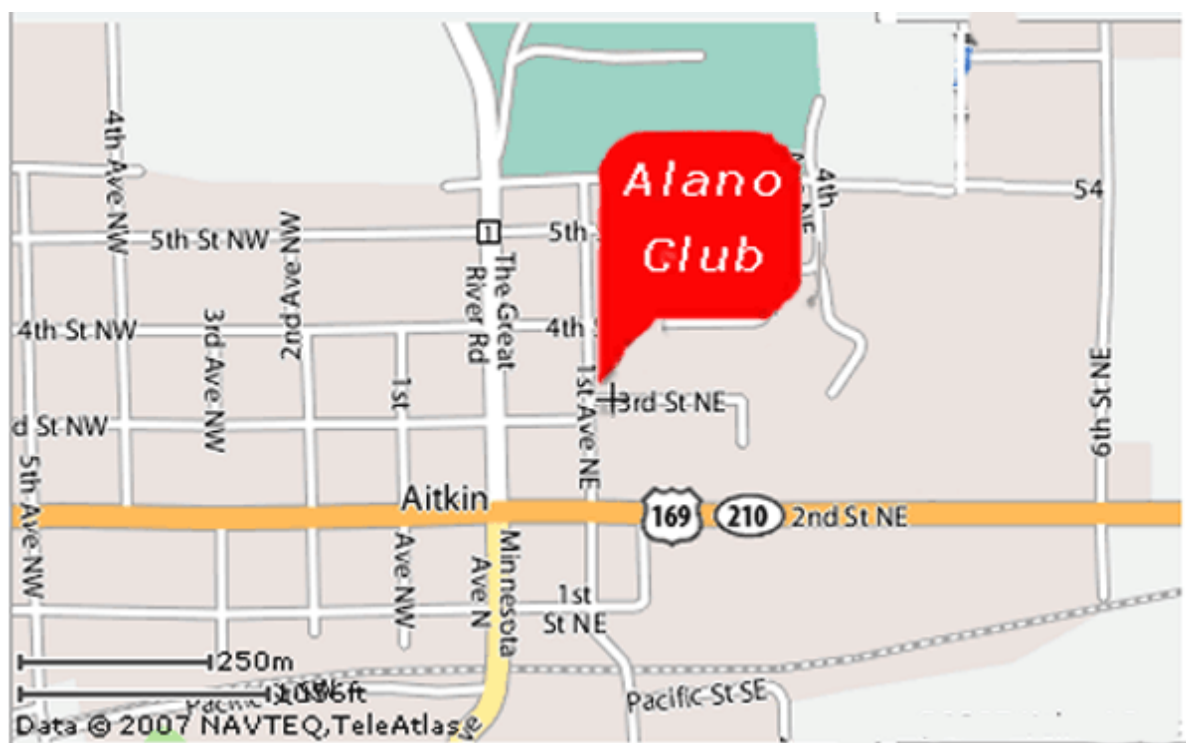
Inclement Weather Procedure For Area 35 Events

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 Alcoholics Anonymous. 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!

Jana M.
Area 35
Northern Light Editor

DELEGATE'S REPORT

Greetings members of Area 35. I hope you are all enjoying this late summer and the gift of sobriety. It is hard to believe that summer is already nearing its end but it is a good reminder that time passes quickly so we need to take action today. This is an important time of the year for us to reflect on the health of our fellowship in our districts, area, and GSO and address concerns to insure that we are most effectively carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

I have completed all of my scheduled delegate reports back to districts with only 2 districts that did not schedule meetings. I want to truly thank the districts for helping to set these up and for the warmth I was greeted with. Getting out to districts, sharing with members, and hearing about the ways each district is working to carry the message has been the true highlight of my rotation.

I attended the Area 35/36 Joint Workshop in July and enjoyed seeing many of you there. I am hopeful that this time together will help us to move forward more purposefully and intentionally in all of our joint activities. Corrections literature disbursement and our shared meeting locator received a great deal of time and are 2 areas of need that need continued work and planning. A big thank you to Kelly D. and Lisa G., Area 35 and 36 Chairs, who insured that this event was set up.

Thanks to all who attended the August Committee meeting in Aitkin. It was exciting to see so many people who are willing to take time away from a beautiful summer day to meet together for the suffering alcoholic. I am looking forward to being a part of the Area Inventory that was voted for at the meeting. I am hopeful that the inventory will allow us to see what areas we need to address to better carry the message and work effectively as an area.

I have received the 2012, 62nd Annual General Service Conference Final Reports but unfortunately did not receive them until after the August Committee meeting. I will be sending these out to DCM's this week so that they can be handed out and reviewed prior to the Fall Assembly. The final reports provide a comprehensive look at the actions taken at the GSC as well as the annual finance reports of the GSO. This information is extremely helpful and pertinent to our fellowship as a whole. It is also a great tool to use to begin developing ideas for possible conference agenda items for this coming year. I strongly encourage that groups, districts, and the entire area consider submitting any proposals that we feel would improve the health of our fellowship. I am willing to assist with this process in any way and would personally wish to see some type of a proposal written that attempts to address the financial health of our fellowship in relation to the tradition of self-support.

The GSO is currently requesting sharing and information back, "regarding the effectiveness of the language of the Short Form of Tradition Eleven in addressing the needs of the fellowship today." This request came out of a Conference Committee on Public Information. Any sharing on this topic can be spoken to me, emailed, mailed, or handed to me and I will forward it on to the GSO.

I thank each of you for your continued efforts to carry the message to those who still suffer and for this opportunity to serve Area 35.

Yours In Service,
Jim K.

ALTERNATE DELAGATE'S REPORT

Hey All,

Hope you enjoyed your summer. Its been a busy time trying to fit all the responsibilities in that I am blessed with in sobriety. The opportunity to be a good landlord and keep my tenants in housing that is comfortable and updated is one of the benefits. I have enjoyed fellow-shipping with friends at KIS weekend and enjoyed some awesome speakers (including my wife) that are part of our Area and have been involved in our service structure. It was so good to see Jon our past Delegate. The committee does a great job and has wonderful meals. I hosted a barbecue over labor day weekend and enjoyed company of many long time and new friends in sobriety. Another blessing to be a good friend and appreciate whom God has put in my life.

I am currently getting things set up for our workshop and an upcoming zonal forum. I really wish I was more organized than I am but it seems To be a constant effort for me. Though I do manage to follow through with my commitments. We all have our things that could improve and another blessing is recognizing my shortcomings. As I write this a day late. We are blessed in Are 35 with a great group of AA members that keep things on track. I will be attending the Heartland Round-up next week-end and will see many more friends and meet new ones.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Went to the Mayo to find out about my health (another blessing that I am willing to follow doctors orders, somewhat) and am working on improving my diet and getting exercise as much as I can. Thank you all for the blessings you have provided along with the program that God has graciously provided. I was talking with friends and sponsees about the reason we are sober and I truly believe, as was told to me early on, that God brought us to AA to help other drunks....it is our primary purpose in life.

Take Care and God Bless
Michael (Jake) J.

AREA CHAIR'S REPORT

Greetings Area 35,

Wow it is hard to believe that fall will soon be in the air and we will be winding down the first year of this rotation soon after. What a time of learning and growth it has been for me so far as your Area 35 Chair. As I am writing this I am also thinking about how grateful that I am to be a part of this wonderful fellowship! Every day miracles are happening around us through the love, help and support you provide to the still suffering alcoholic. The service work that is done to continue to carry AA's message of hope would not be made possible without the help of all of you that serve. Thank you all for your commitment to be of service!

I am looking forward to our Fall Assembly coming up in International Falls. It will be a great weekend of fellowship along with time spent doing an Area inventory. I hope you all received the 17 questions that I emailed out that will be used to do the inventory and had a chance to take them to your groups and Districts. Your feedback and comments will help provide the Area with ways in which we can better serve you. I would like to thank Dennis B. past Delegate from Area 36 for excepting my invitation to proctor this event for us. I had the opportunity to meet him at our Joint Workshop and I can tell you that he comes with a lot of experience in all areas of Alcoholics Anonymous.

I received the notes taken from the Area 35/36 Workshop that was held on July 21st from Lisa, the Area 36 Secretary. I emailed them out to everyone along with the evaluations I typed with the comments from that workshop. They are also in this addition of the Northern Light. Please take the time to read them and let me know if you have any questions. Then you can mark your calendar for July 20, 2013, that will be our next Workshop with them that will be held again in St. Cloud. Hopefully it will be at the same location, more information on the location to come.

As always thank you for the opportunity to be of service and if there is anything I can do to help any of you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

In love and service,
Kelly D.

AREA 35 & AREA 36 JOINT WORKSHOP JULY 21, 2012

Area Officer -The group came up with 6 topics and they are as follows:

Dealing with Ad-hoc requests through email - Officer's getting a lot of email and looking for feedback or suggestions on how to handle them – i.e. Info on where meetings are or I want to get my license back

Suggestions from various officers:

If I get an email as the Area Secretary that I am not sure how to handle, I will send it to either the Delegate or the Area Chair but I make certain to copy all of the Officers so they know it's being addressed. We will also discuss during the monthly Officers meeting.

If it is sent to all Officers at one time, people may be responding differently. Was suggested that all officers are copied on the response as well.

Some will send the email to the DCM if it is a question related to a specific Group in a District. They will provide input if asked but try to use the guidelines rather than personal opinion.

One officer shared that she does not have her Officer email forwarded on to her personal email and finds this helpful. She has to log onto the Area Email and concentrate on that and doesn't get distracted by personal email.

All agreed that it comes down to communication and coordination amongst the Officers.

Utilize new technology to get info passed on to others – More specifically utilizing web-cam/teleconference to connect with outstate to allow more voting members to participate in Area Assembly's.

The main topic was utilizing a "Skype" type product at the Area Assembly. This came from Area 36 who does

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

move the meetings around but still felt that if there was web access it would allow more to participate.

Area 35 has 4 Zones and they rotate Assembly's and workshops in the different zones. This allows people to drive to all parts of the Area and shares the burden of travel.

All agreed that using a teleconference/video meeting can be technically challenging and that this is a "futuristic" idea.

Website Management : Changes going to web site making it worse vs. better, People who are volunteers without technical skills, very little guidance on how to do it

There was a lot of discussion and everyone agreed that help is needed with the meeting locator

Suggestion to have both Area Officers work together to form an ad-hoc committee to reiterate the Statewide purpose of the AA meeting locator and also create a new non rotating committee to handle this.

Need to have consistency from Northern and Southern MN with regards to Corrections

There are inconsistencies with regards to the two Area's and what is provided to the Correctional Facilities

Discussion on the Pink Can Plan in Area 36 which is utilized to provide literature to the Correctional facilities.

Area 35 does not have the Pink Can Plan and does not agree with it as the money is designated for a specific purpose and Area 35 does not agree with this.

Area 36 Corrections contact has been working with some Area 35 Prisons/Jails and providing literature through the Pink Can Plan. This gives mixed messages about what AA can provide since Area 35 does not do this.

Suggestion to improve the constancy is to have a joint meeting every year with the Corrections Area Chair.

Need to define the baseline that both area's would agree too

Corrections, Website and Area Chairs meet and work together on this

Develop an ad-hoc committee to get a solution to this

How do we make it so newcomers can relate to us? How to make it simple and easy for Newcomers to General Service?

The older members of AA are talking about topics that a Newcomer wouldn't care about

Service shows a new person that there is a structure that is bigger than them and that they can grow towards

Things seem to be getting more complicated at workshops and Assembly's

We can't forget the newcomer and can't leave them behind

Providing literature and resources to Prisons - Pink Can Discussion

A group in Area 35 heard about a jail in their Area that needed Big Books so their Group bought a case of books and dropped them off.

When a job is too big for a District then the Area helps out

Need to have a consistent view of AA in MN from the perspective of State and County corrections

If Moose Lake needs Big Books, who is going to buy them? Why does Southern MN know about Moose Lake needing BB and N. MN doesn't know?

What needs to be done in order for Area 35 and 36 to be more consistent?

Work needs to be done in terms of communication through Area 35 and 36

Newsletter/Website/Group Records – Held a combined meeting

NL request – exchanging articles that may be pertinent to the whole State. Should the Area's receive each other's newsletters when they are mailed out?

Spent a lot of time on the Web – If you are on the Web and you find a meeting that is listed wrong on Google Maps, you can submit a request to Google to have it changed.

Discussed how the AA Locator is updated and the recommendation is to update every 2 months

Is it time to put Meeting locator in a maintenance mode? Should we get GSO to do this nationwide? Create a proposal to have GSO do this?

Web site Ad-hoc committee will be started back up again and make some recommendations on what should be changed.

If Area 36/35 are going to update is there any synergy on having common set up?

Literature/Grapevine - 4 items discussed

Agenda Item #14 – No background material will be brought until January

Don't have any background material but want to hear through the Delegate what Plan B is before January.

GSO promising that the Grapevine will not go away. 2225K readers but only 85K subscriptions.

Grapevine is available on all the electronic readers -

Being able to receive BB and 12X12 on other media

Buying the BB through another retailer so they can have it on the reader they have

Want to have it more accessible

Reported Area 36 proposal to change the stories back to the original version

Bringing back the stories from the 3rd addition because of the editing

Would there be another set up charge to bring it back?

Would like to see the Big Book made with better quality to hold up

How can we support Grapevine through fellowship?

Giving editor in that position a chance to bring it into viability. Profits are in Black and bottom line is predicted to

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

stay that way.

Are the stories meeting the needs of the fellowship? Is it as the writer wrote it?

Discussed how groups and individuals can support GV.

Group can support to bring into different facilities/communities – asking permission of course

Archives –

They exchange information between Area 35/36 and display together occasionally – We need to interview old timers and document this.

Discussion on things they do in the Archives – They have people that specialize in different area of the literature.

Public Information and Cooperation with Professional Community

Discussed – PI/CPC workshops conducted by Committee/chairs – discussed presentations

How 35/36 can work together more in PI and CPC – A lot of CPC are statewide but in one area and talked about working together

Explore MN – The Travel Center - Mary and Roger worked together on a one page document as per their request.

They list AA meeting locator. These are put in travel centers that have counters. Please ask if you stop at one and they should be able to provide a copy. Let Roger and Mary know if you were able to get one.

CPC issue – Do we invite professionals to an event that we have or go to their events?

Supplying packets for lawyers, doctors as Intergroups do.

Discussed State Fair and how it's going – A lot of verbal support but not a lot of bodies.

We are Alcoholics Anonymous not AA invisible

Treatment /Corrections

Combined committee with Corrections

Read some announcements

3 topics

Area 35/36 Pink Can Plan – Discussed what Area 36 Pin Can plan is and how it is utilized

Need for long term contact for continuity for Corrections coordinator

Google site for Districts and document page with contact information for new chairs coming in.

Hosting a breakfast for Corrections/CPC/ Treatment – Collaborative with Area 35/36 with packets.

Singleness of Purpose

AA versus Drug Addicts = How to explain singleness of purpose – What AA is and is not – problems other than alcohol.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa B – Area 36 Secretary

AREA 35/36 WORKSHOP EVALUATIONS

JULY 21, 2012

60 IN ATTENDANCE

30 TOTAL RESPONSES

GSR'S – 4

HOW DID YOU LIKE THE WORKSHOP?

Excellent. Thanks!

I have attended many area events over the last few years and have always had a great experience and learned a lot. I however struggled a bit with this one. The breakout sessions were good and I enjoyed those, but the earlier presentations – I kind of was not sure their purpose and did not think they contributed to the discussions afterward. Maybe it would be helpful to have the earlier time slot be a time for everyone to talk about topics which are then discussed in detail at the breakout sessions.

Breakout session is the best part of the joint workshop.

It was great to meet with others from Area 35. I will definitely let others in Area 36 know this.

OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:

Better planning – coffee, extension cords.

I thought the workshop was not very well announced. We knew there was a workshop but I for one did not understand what the topic of the workshop was. Maybe if we got more information out the attendance would have been better.

Should be recorded, need microphones for questions and answers.

We could have used more time for breakout sessions. Secretary should give report. Need a whole day workshop.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS – 12

HOW DID YOU LIKE THE WORKSHOP?

Enjoyed it very much. Loved the location. Was a good month for me, loved the time frame too.

Time was tight to discuss/learn/mingle.

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

I liked it. It was enjoyable talking to other chairs.

Great workshop – breakout sessions really good discussion. Could have been better publicized with an advance agenda? Maybe more area participation in planning. Greeters?

Fantastic – very well planned. Microphones and recording could be helpful.

It was great. We Area 35 & 36 need to promote this event better for the state of AA in Minnesota that we may better work together to help the still suffering alcoholic and it's importance.

Excellent. Good communication and participation.

Went well. Well organized. Corrections and Web presentations were not extremely informative.

Great sharing of information. Need to do workshop more often or the sharing of Newsletters was a great idea.

Good enthusiasm. Like presentations – keep short. Date was good for me, slower for Area event in July/August/September.

Very informative. Liked every event I attend/function I learn more than I thought I did.

Thank you for the presentation on AA Meeting/Locator. What I like about AA workshop is coming up with items that need action or work continuous. I will be working Area 36 Webmaster and AA meeting location.com

My first joint workshop. Very interesting. Lots of information.

OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:

Thank you for the great day!

Do yearly – rotate the presentations thru Communities/Corrections this year, PC/Treatment next year.

Make it for the fall, to much going on in the summer.

Like that it was only half day. Maybe one less presentation. Coffee/treats awesome! Location awesome!

A full day would be nice but we had enough time to complete our work.

Need a microphone. Breaks between presentations.

October would be a good month.

Maybe food would draw a bigger audience.

OTHER – 5

HOW DID YOU LIKE THE WORKSHOP?

Very good, glad we had it.

I like it!

Liked much, glad I participated.

Awesome!

Great! Extremely important to share together as Areas in Minnesota. Very good agenda.

OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:

Insure we have it every year.

PA system – hard to hear.

More snacks!

DCM's – 4

HOW DID YOU LIKE THE WORKSHOP?

Just fine.

Enjoyable – got something out of it.

Very informational. 1st time for joint workshop.

With gusto. Make contacts, continue contracts, view new records/old/current considerations and actions.

OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:

This program was not founded by use of computers it was past on from an AA member to the newcomer. We are loosing touch of our basic 12 step work.

Good idea – also good location - “in between”

Lisa and Kelly great job.

OFFICERS – 5

HOW DID YOU LIKE THE WORKSHOP?

Well done – not to much, good discussions – keep it simple worked well.

Yes.

I liked it very well. Keep emphasis on what the two Areas can do jointly.

GREAT! Very eye opening....I didn't know that we had business that needed to be dealt with jointly & communicate better.

Very good. Thanks for organizing this....I am glad I came.

OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:

Maybe a few topics for Committees from Committee Chairs.

Microphone availability for future workshop. Meet from 12:30-5:00

Have the agenda of workshop out much earlier so it is clear what we will do at the workshop.

The meeting place was very good. Length of the workshop was just right. Thank you.

We should do this annually. It's really good to learn about AA in Minnesota & all the differences & similarities.

TREASURER’S REPORT

To start, I would like to apologize for my dereliction of duties. My life became very hectic with family medical problems the end of June and the beginning of July which caused me to miss the Northern Light deadline for getting my report in on time.

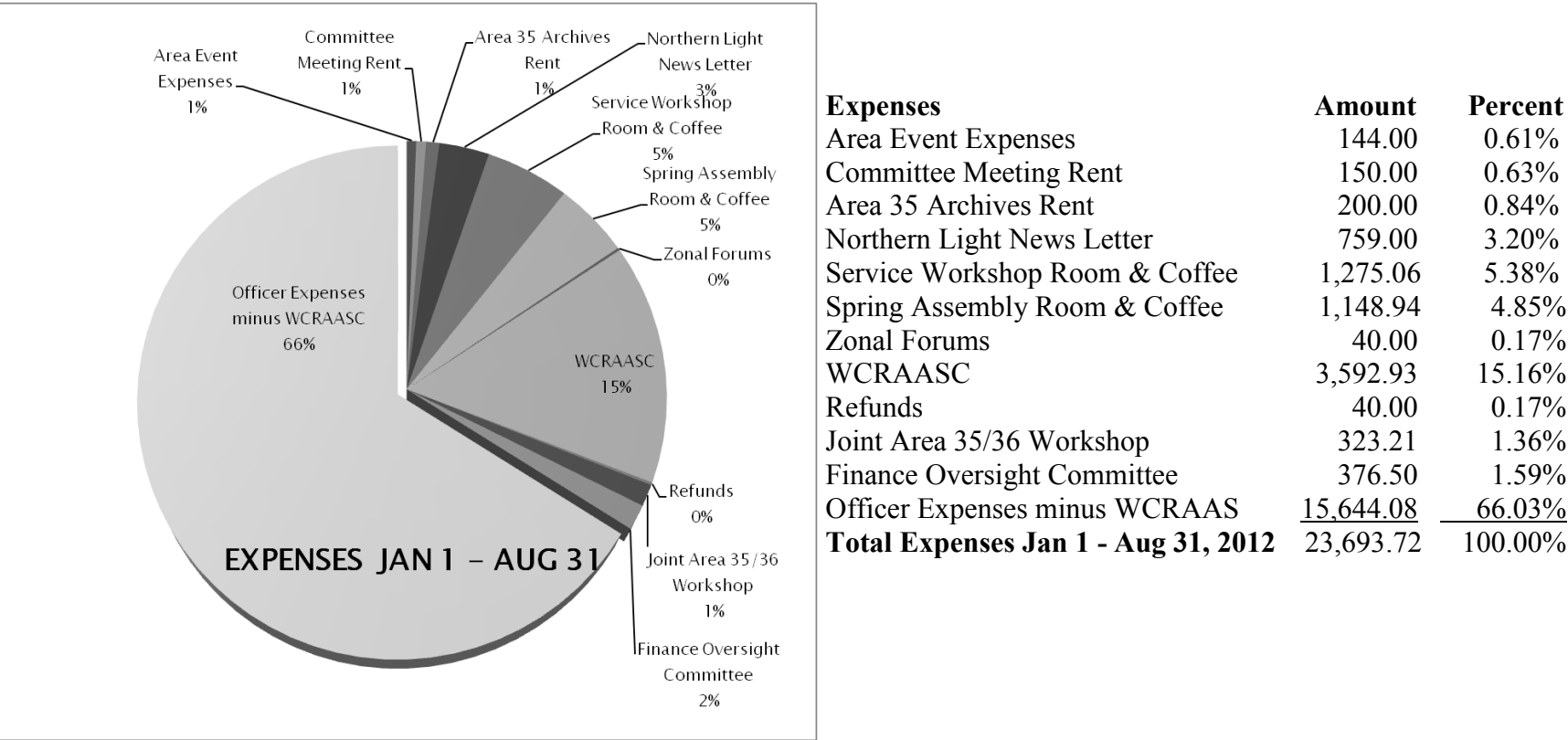
I received a couple of questionable contributions. One was from The Embers by the Fire which I found to be a woman’s retreat round up that sent money to both Area 35 & 36. Next was a problem check from a small town. The check stated a Wednesday night meeting with no service number, Group name nor phone number. There was no Wednesday night meeting listed for that town in the Area FNV data base. I could only find a Tuesday and a Thursday night meeting for that town. After some detective work I found a phone number to call. The gentleman to whom I spoke was very informative. He stated that this was the first time the Area had ever acknowledged that his group had sent a contribution and that the only way he knew the Area received their contribution was with the canceled check. He stated that his group didn’t like to send contributions without getting a receipt. He would like to be able to bring some kind of acknowledgement to his group. His group is going to update its records and I will be sending a thank you. The last questionable contribution I received was a five dollar bill in an envelope. No service number, no group name, and no phone number. Again after clever detective work I found a phone number and called. The Lady I talked to wanted to give a little bit to AA because her daughter has been sober in AA for four years and she was grateful to us for giving her daughter back to her. I explained why we couldn’t take the cash and sent it back to her.

I am in the process of sending Contribution Thank You letters. Currently I’ve received a total of 404 Contributions this year. So please have patience.

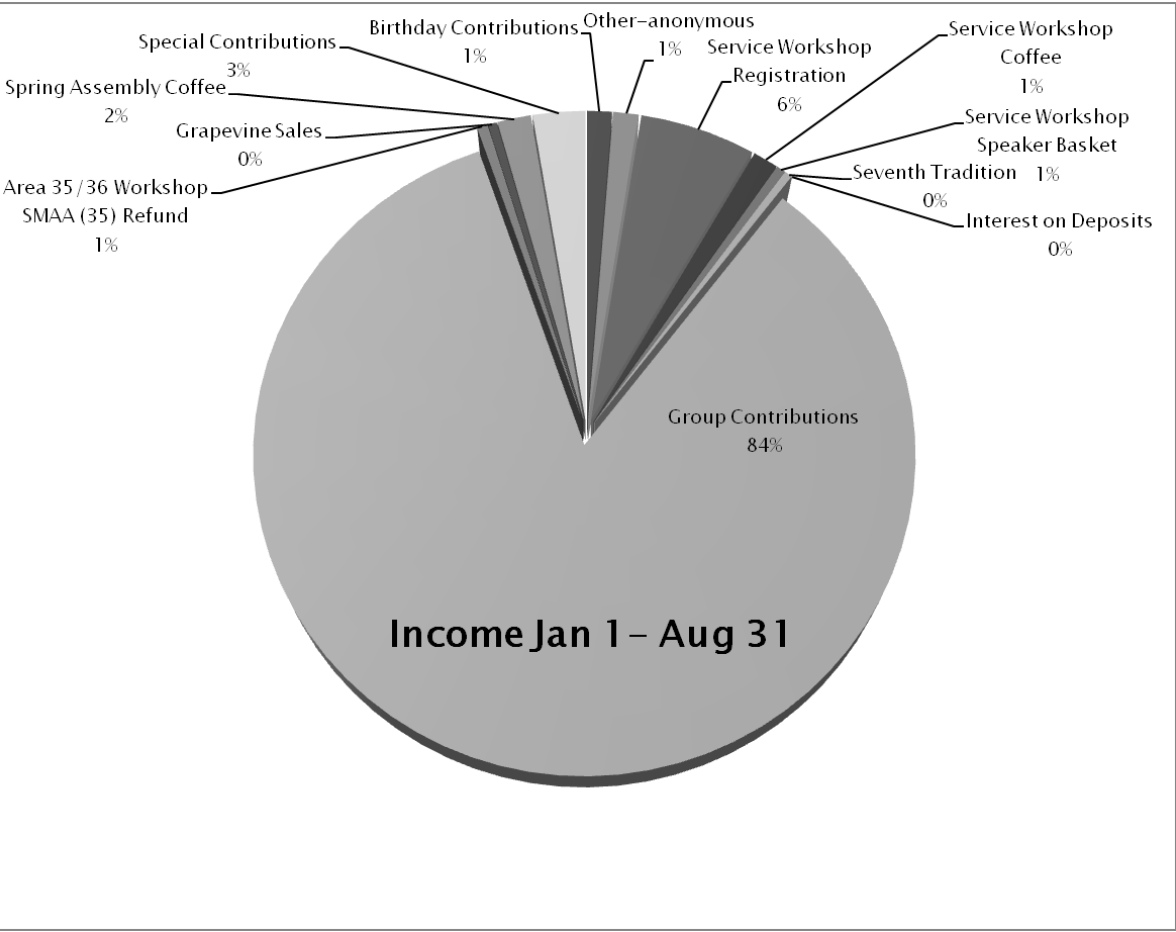
Most groups do a terrific job about giving the correct information to receive proper credit for their contributions. They give the group’s service number, the group’s correct name and the group’s district number on their contribution. Unfortunately some groups do not. The group’s correct name is not enough information. For example, do you know how many Groups have the name “Back To Basics Group”? There are eight groups with that same name. Don’t be surprised if you get a phone call from me asking about your group’s contribution. If your group doesn’t know its service number, they can obtain it from Sandy, our Group Records Secretary. The USPS will be stopping the address forwarding service soon so please use the new envelopes with the new correct address or go to our web site and get it.

To find where to send contributions on our web site area35.org click on the tab on top of the Home Web page saying Donate Online. This tab will bring you to the contribution’s page where you will find the area treasurer’s address. Also, there is a link for you to download and print a contribution information form. Finally, there is a link to Paypal if you wish to make your contribution on-line.

Now let’s look at the Numbers:



(Continued from page 11)



Income	Amount	Percent
Birthday Contributions	290.98	1.25%
Other-anonymous	300.00	1.29%
Service Workshop Registration	1,360.10	5.83%
Service Workshop Coffee	297.00	1.27%
Service Workshop Speaker Basket	108.84	0.47%
Seventh Tradition	90.25	0.39%
Interest on Deposits	6.21	0.03%
Group Contributions	19,624.70	84.15%
Area 35/36 Workshop SMAA (35) Refund	125.38	0.54%
Grapevine Sales	104.51	0.45%
Spring Assembly Coffee	395.45	1.70%
Special Contributions	617.64	2.65%
Total Income	23,321.06	100.00%

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Treasurer.

Humbly in service,
Steven L.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

I attended the Area 35/36 Joint Committee Meeting in St. Cloud. It was interesting to meet the people from the Southern Half of the State. My first AA meetings were in Marshall, MN at the hospital. My first sponsor was from the Southwestern part of the state. I moved to Bigfork, MN when my husband and I were married in 1984. I had a difficult time finding a meeting to go to in the northern part of Itasca County. What some people in the twin cities area don’t know or understand is how remote outstate Minnesota can be for a person in AA who perhaps doesn’t have a drivers license or vehicle to drive to a meeting. I remember driving to a meeting on a cold winters night alone and sliding off the road into the ditch. My husband didn’t expect me back home for at least another 2 hours and there I sat. I worried because there were no other cars travelling this road. The tree’s were so tall I couldn’t see lights and had no idea how far away from town I was. I prayed. Then I got out of the car and placed all of my car mats under the tires. I slowly backed up and was back on the road. I drove the rest of the way to the AA meeting and thanked my Higher Power for the small miracle. I no longer was living in an alcoholic fog and had the sense to think about my situation. HP and I figured out a solution to my present problem and continues to do that to this day. We’ve been a team for 30 years on 9/7/12. I’m very proud to be your Area 35 Secretary.

Thank You for letting me serve the Area!
Mary S.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WEBMASTER

I am almost out of vacation. July and August have been slow WEB months. I have been able to keep you with the area calendar. Meeting updates are lagging. I should be able to get caught up by our Assembly in October.

For those that like statics:

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan-2012	1,486	2,227	12,082	56,317	1.24 GB
Feb-2012	1,436	2,124	9,944	53,392	1.34 GB
Mar-2012	1,518	2,215	10,687	60,792	1.23 GB
Apr-2012	1,351	1,858	8,408	47,350	878.15 MB
May-2012	1,292	2,043	8,683	53,773	962.36 MB
June-2012	1,316	1,930	7,612	46,591	765.17 MB
July-2012	1,485	2,137	8,165	51,478	905.95 MB
Aug-2012	1,539	2,302	8,663	54,544	915.81 MB

www.AAmeetingLocator.org

An ad-hoc committee with members from area35 and area36 was formed. Area 35 will be represented by 2 past delegates, our secretary, our record keeper, and webmaster.

Bob B,
admin@area35.org

GRAPEVINE

Placed a order for 2013 Grapevine wall calendars, the new books from Grapevine Young & Sober and Into Action - will have available at the Fall assembly in October. So don't procrastinate make the Grapevine table your first visit!

Attended the Joint Workshop in St. Cloud, meet the area 36 Grapevine chair shared that she normally wears Purple but was on vacation! Don't believe area 35 will see your chair in purple this rotation..Jeanne as area 36 chair rotation is at the end of this year.

The Grapevine Daily Quote has reached over 11,250 subscribers if you don't receive you may sign up online or receive via e-mail on aagrapevine.org

Lavina's 16th anniversary in July many celebrations. Also the Grapevine will begin to report upcoming Area activities in the GV News as well on aagrapevine.org. Also a work in progress to get all Area 35 Grapevine Chairs registered!

Shipping rates for Grapevine standard shipping rate has been raised, although that the last rate increase was in September of 2002, new rate is starting September 2012.

Will continue to have a lot of Grapevine subscription forms fora anybody in area 35 that does not now receive! Plus visit aagrapevine.org to renew a subscription.

Haven't had much success in coordinating the past [retired delegates] in dressing up in purple and doing a skit or something promoting the grapevine!

Thanks for letting me be of service to Area 35!
Carey A.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1969, the GSC recommended that A.A.World services Inc., and the A.A. Grapevine Inc., with the primary purpose of the Fellowship foremost in mind, study their efforts in each other's behalf and extend to each other the fullest cooperation in making the Fellowship aware of the tools of AA.

Grapevine New Books:
YOUNG & SOBER

Written by members who got sober in their teens, 20's and 30's. The stories recount how members recognized their alcoholism even though their drinking may have only few years.

INTO ACTION

Written by members with varying lengths of sobriety highlighting the practice of the Twelve Steps.

COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED**ARCHIVIST**

Hello everyone. I have had some busy months.

I did a joint display with Area 36 at Gopher State Round Up in May. I presented at the District 9 Workshop in June in Hibbing. I attended and recorded both Area committee meetings in Aitkin. In August I used a new set up with a wired microphone. 4g phones have a stronger transmitter then the wireless microphone so they were causing reception problems. I attended the joint committee meeting in July in St. Cloud. I taped a Saint Cloud long-timer in July. I am continuing to catalog and develop a data base of the Archives collection. I had an article written for the last issue but forgot to send it then went on vacation and missed the deadline. The next display will be in Duluth for the Duluth Round-Up in September. I am also displaying at the Saint Cloud Round-Up in October and doing a joint display with Area 36 at Founders day in Saint Louis Park in November. We are planning a joint Archives workshop with Area 36 for 2013. I am bringing 8 speakers and 2 amplifiers to International Falls for Fall Assembly and have adaptors to plug into the house system in Detroit Lakes with-out noise. I hope I can get in on Friday night to set up because it is going to take some time.

Recent contributions to the Archives are a 1936 "Time" magazine with an article on the Stockbridge MA. Oxford Group House Party, a 50's vintage "The Wife of an Alcoholic" by Lewis Presnall, a 1945 book "Alcohol, Science and Society" with the talk Bill Wilson gave at the Yale School of Alcohol Studies that was reprinted in the "Three Talks to Medical Societies" pamphlet. In the Q and A section Bill talks about singleness of purpose. A 1913 book "The cure of Alcoholism" by Austin O'Malley and a 1967 book "the Use of LSD in Psychotherapy and Alcoholism" by Harold Abrahamson M.D.

The answer to the last history question is "the common Sense of Drinking" This issues history question is: On pages 138 and 139 who is the bank executive who is undoubtedly an alcoholic.

Thanks for the opportunity to be of service
Brad I.

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

CPC- Cooperating with the Professional Community is a very important function in our Area. Many alcoholics come into contact with professionals prior to attending their first AA meeting or making contact with AA. Therefore it is critical to carrying our message that many different types of professionals are well informed about AA.

While the CPC function is important is appears to be one that often falls behind in priority to other more pressing Treatment, Corrections and Public Information tasks in our Districts. It is also my observation that the pool of AA members who are willing to work to carry our message and engage in service activities seems to be decreasing in size.

So what is the solution to the dilemma posited above? I believe that it is time for a **call to action** in our Area and in our districts. As your CPC Chair I am going to encourage, support and assist each District in completing one major CPC project before December 31, 2012. For example: A major District CPC activity could be having a number of AA members or home groups hand deliver information on AA to Family Practice and Internal Medicine Medical Doctor's offices. There are many different types of professionals in our Area and Districts that we need to reach.

CPC REPORT CONTINUED

I will also support and assist Districts in setting goals for the number of CPC projects they can complete in 2013. I have also made a decision that to accomplish this I will need to take action to contact PI/CPC Chairs and DCMs in our Area.

I attended the Area Committee Meeting in August and enjoyed a lively break out session at that meeting. I worked the Area 36/35 State Fair Booth on August 26 and held several constructive talks with local professionals. I was encouraged to see that Area 36 has adopted a "State Fair Shift Survey" that we worked on with Area 36 in the past rotation. I look forward to seeing you all at the Fall Assembly in International Falls, MN.

In service,
Roger R.

CORRECTIONS

Thank you to all volunteers and those supporting our AA work in Minnesota Correctional Facilities.

The Transition Fair at Rush City, Sept. 12th has been postponed. The soonest it could be held is Nov. 13th. If anyone in Districts 11, 7 or 12 is interested in helping, please contact me.

There will be an informational workshop in Brainerd on Sept 12th to help explain AA's work to the parole and probation officers of Crow Wing Co. Mark G., the Facilities Re-entry Coordinator, along with Larry F. and Mary M. from area 36, will be hosting this meeting. Anyone in Corrections or CPC from District 7 is invited to attend. Contact me for information on this event.

The Transition Fair for Moose Lake MCF is still scheduled for October. I have applications for the Prison background checks and attendance at Transitions Fairs and these applications should be sent in soon. More information can be found at: <https://forums.doc.state.mn.us/site/tc/default.sapx> or at the website <http://www.doc.state.mn.us/> under "Quick Links."

Also the annual *Bridging the Gap* workshop put on by the GSO is being held September 7-9 at the Airport Hilton Hotel in Bloomington. This event is held once a year at different locations across the country. I strongly urge anyone in Corrections or Treatment service to attend this workshop. I have registration forms for anyone interested. The cost is \$35 pre-registration or \$40 at the door. It would be nice to have a big turnout from Area 35. This workshop will not get closer than Bloomington MN.

We continue to need AA's in many Districts to volunteer in service - hosting meetings in Correctional Facilities, writing letters to inmates and offering to get them to an AA meeting upon their release from prison, and providing literature for the inmates. Please bring this message back to your local groups.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Fall Assembly.

Yours in service,
Jeff E.

COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED**PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Greetings!

Here it is, Fall just around the corner. This year so far has been quite a learning experience. Hope to have the PI folders for the Dist PI Chairs ready for the Fall Assembly. This is an example of how to and the success of a PI Luncheon.

I would also like to thank the Area for supporting the State Fair Booth and the Districts and individuals who willingly showed up and took part. For my-self, it was quite an experience just talking to and meeting people feeling the pain of Alcoholism among their friends and in their families. I will take part next year in a heart-beat.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Fall Assembly in I-Falls. As the journey continues I see the need to get our message out there to those in need of help. In the last month I have had former co workers contact me for help with a Son or Daughter. You people and the Fellowship have made it possible for me to be available and to hopefully provide some answers and support.

In Service,
Butch R.

LITERATURE

Hello Area 35,

I trust this note finds all well. Usually Labor Day weekend wraps up summer in Northern Minnesota with the children looking forward to the new school year and die hard Viking Fans knowing this will be the year, but with the forecast of 88 degrees it feels more like the fourth of July. I have often found my expectations of what should be at odds with how things actually are thus I try to be engaged with the moment to lessen poor assumptions.

I have made it a goal in the coming months to visit different District Meetings to stay engaged with the role Literature plays in Area 35. To learn more about how literature is utilized and share what I learn. For example, I know of a group that decided to take a copy of *As Bill Sees it* and read a random page to begin the discussion at the meeting. I will also send out an email to all DCMs in preparation for my next literature order on September 17th and availability of literature for the Fall Assembly.

Thanks to all for the opportunity to be of Service!!
Sean D.

TREATMENT

It's been a very busy time these past few months, with lots of service activity going on in our area. That's always a healthy sign when there are lots of commitments to make and we stay busy.

We had numerous calls for 'Bridging the Gap' requests, and we had some difficulty getting members to communicate as temporary contacts. Some Districts do not have people active in Treatment Committees or do not respond accordingly to requests. That tells me that we have a lot of work to do in service work. We have had 6 contacts in the last month including one from Clayton, California for a client getting out of Diablo Valley Ranch Treatment Center and relocating to Bemidji, Minnesota. As of today, I have not heard anything from the DCM or other contacts in the Bemidji Area despite several e/ mails and telephone calls.

We will be hosting a Treatment Committee Workshop on October 20th at the Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Virginia, Mn.

TREATMENT REPORT CONTINUED

from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. The District Treatment committees will be doing the selected topics and almost all of them have been filled. I will continue to be visiting/calling and e/ mailing the surrounding Treatment Facilities in our Area to inform them of our upcoming workshop. We have had a few calls inquiring of the workshop already so there seems to be some interest.

On August 26th we had the opportunity to speak at the Donovan Frank Treatment Facility in Virginia, Mn. located in District 8. Before the meeting one of the Facility directors informed the Treatment clients and AA members that people from outside the Facility were helping themselves to the Refrigerator, goodies and taking things that were intended for the in-patient clients. This stresses the need for the members to be informed of the rules and regulations of the facilities. The District Treatment Chair and DCM of District 8 were informed of the problem.

Yours in Service,
Randy A.

NORTHERN LIGHT REPORT

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Feel free to send letters or articles. Articles can not be anonymous please include the first name, last initial and name of the city where the author is from. The deadline for each Issue is printed on the front page.

If your interested in getting a flyer into the Northern Light. The group records secretary Sandy H., has that information in her report below.

Yours in Service,
Jana M.

GROUP RECORDS

Hello everyone hope you all had a great summer and got plenty of fishing in.

Once again time for another report wow where did the summer go. It has been an extremely busy summer for me not sure about anyone else though. I have been trying to keep FNV updated and working on the excel spreadsheets, once again I ask for your patience. For inserts in the Northern Light please send the check made out to the US postmaster for \$75 to me. The inserts 600 of them can be sent/given to me or The Cold Spring Record. If you have any questions about any of the please contact me: grouprecords@area35.org. I hope that the end of the summer finds you all in good health and high spirits. Once again I ask you for your patience and I wish to thank everyone of you for your trust in me how amazing is this program! Thank you for saving my life! See you in International Falls.

Yours in humble service,
Sandy H.

ARCHIVES

No report submitted

**Area 35 Committee Meeting
August 5, 2012
Minutes**

Opened with the Serenity Prayer

Past Delegates in attendance were: Panel 32 -Tom L., Panel 44 - Bruce B., Panel 48 - Susie A., Panel 50 -Tom A., Panel 52- Tim C., Panel 54 - Charlie C., & Panel 56 -Jerry S.

Items added to the agenda were:

District 5 to present ideas regarding Delegate using District or Area budget for expenses

Group Information Update

The June Committee Meeting Minutes were accepted and approved as written.

Officer Reports:

Delegate—Jim K: Greetings members of Area35. I Hope everyone reading this is having an enjoyable and sober summer with family and friends. This is also a great time to begin considering possible agenda items and suggestions for next year's conference. It has been a relatively busy time with reports back to all districts but this has been the true highlight of my rotation thus far. I want to thank all of the districts for their work, hospitality, and for allowing me to visit. I have reported back to all districts that have scheduled reports and I Am only waiting to hear back for scheduled times for districts 1 and 2. I hope that the reports back provided adequate information regarding this year's conference advisory actions as well as other pertinent information for our fellowship. I also hope that this spring's up conversations with in home groups and districts as to where we are at as a fellowship and where we need to go to make sure that we are doing the best job we can of fulfilling our primary purpose. I attended the Area35/36 Joint workshop in St. Cloud in July and had the privilege to sit in on the officers meeting at the workshop. A great deal of discussion at the workshop centered around how both areas can insure that literature is being distributed adequately to our correctional facilities and the current status of our AA Meeting Locator site. The Workshop appeared to be very helpful in identifying area of need for both improving communication and planning for literature distribution to correctional facilities and developing an ongoing committee to address website needs. Finally, I Want to encourage area action chairs as well as all A.A. Members to consider possible proposal ideas to submit to the General Service Office For consideration for next year's General Service Conference. Proposals need to be submitted prior to January. Ideas For possible proposals can be brought forward by home groups, districts, or individual A.A. members. Thanks again for this opportunity to serve Area 35 and for all individual work to our fellowship. Yours in Service, Jim K.

Alternate Delegate- Michael (Jake) J: Hi All. I hope you are all well. I am still working on my health and working at getting better. Summer has been a time of family gatherings and activities. I ask myself what I did these last 2 months as Alt. Delegate and outside of attending the Area35/36 Workshop not a lot on this side. I continue to attend meetings and work with sponsee's. The workshop turned out to be a great way to meet the Area 36 committee and share ideas. We had some good sharing on websites and corrections and the problems associated with them. In our breakout with Area Officers, Terry L was elected our chair (alt delegate area 36) and Mary S. (our Area 35 Secretary) was our secretary. We discussed 5 or 6 topics including e-mails and using web technology to carry assemblies to outlying area. Website management, Newcomers and their relationship to service, Co-operating and managing our resources and also pink can funds and books for corrections facilities. Kelly and Lisa did a good job in setting the workshop up. We all came away having learned more about each area. Yours in Service – Jake Michael J.

Chair – Kelly D: Hello everyone, it is good to be here with all of you today. Since my last report in June I attended our Delegate Jim K. report back on the General Service Conference he attended with my home District 5 and with District 6 on July 15th. Although it was a very hot and humid afternoon and the church had their air conditioning go out, we all managed to survive and had a good time of food and fellowship and hearing Jim talk about the Agenda items discussed. He did a wonderful presentation and gave us a lot of information on the conference. Thanks Jim, for your service and doing such a great job for Area 35! I also attended our Area35/36 Joint Workshop that was on July 21st. We had 60 in attendance and it was a great informational exchange between Areas. I am sure you will hear more from many today in their reports on how well this Workshop went. I am waiting to receive the notes from the Area 36 Secretary Lisa, and when I do I will send them out to everyone. I also typed up the evaluations from that Workshop and I will forward them on too. I would like to thank Lisa G, Area 36 Chair. I enjoyed working with her to put this Workshop together. Scott DCM from District 13 for hosting and finding the space and Rita D. District 5 for doing the greeting and registration. Please mark your calendars and join us on July 20, 2013 for our next joint workshop with them. I look forward to spending sometime carrying the AA message of hope at the Mille Lacs County Fair AA booth on August 10 and again on August 25th at the Minnesota State Fair. Last I would also like to thank District 3 for inviting me to be a part of their Round Up on July 7th and 8th. I had a great time in the great outdoors and also got to see some old friends from District 4 there too. I also had the opportunity to spend some time with the Waite Park West End 12 Step Group at their Open Speaker Meeting. Thanks to both groups for making me feel so welcome and relaxed! I look forward to seeing you all at our Fall Assembly in International Falls in October. Remember to make your reservation soon. The deadline to get the group rate is September 5th. Grateful to be of service. Kelly D. Area 35 Chair

Secretary – Mary S: Good Morning. Last committee meeting my mom was admitted to the hospital and I decided to stay with her. Sara K helped write up the minutes and I would like to thank her so much for her support. I attended the Area 35-36 Service Workshop in St. Cloud. I learned a lot and it was an eye opener to me to see the differences and similarities between the Area 35 and Area 36. Just a reminder to e-mail your reports to me by August 25th or better yet, hand me your hand written report today. Yours in Service – Mary S.

Treasurer – Steven L: To start, I would like to apologize for my dereliction of duties. My life became very hectic with family medical problems at the end of June and the beginning of July which caused me to miss the Northern Light deadline for getting my report in on time. Also, there was a small communication glitch between me and Mary in importing excel information into her reports. We will get this resolved before the next report. My missed NL report is on the back table with my current reports. I received a couple of questionable contributions. One was from The Embers by the Fire which I found to be a woman's retreat round up that sent money to both Area 35 & 36. Next was a problem check from a small town. The check stated a Wednesday night meeting with no service number, Group name or phone number. There was no Wednesday night meeting listed for that town in the Area FNV data base. I could only find a Tuesday and a Thursday night meeting for that town. After some detective work I found a phone number to call. The gentleman to whom I spoke was very informative. He stated that this was the first time the Area had ever acknowledged that his group had sent a contribution and that the only way he knew the Area received their contribution was with the canceled check. He stated that his group didn't like to send contributions without getting a receipt. He would like to be able to bring some kind of acknowledgement to his group. His group is going to update its records and I will be sending a thank you. The last questionable contribution I received was a five dollar bill in an envelope. No service number, no group name, and no phone number. Again after clever detective work I found a phone number and called. The Lady I talked to wanted to give a little bit to AA because her daughter has been sober in AA for four years and she was grateful to us for giving her daughter back to her. I explained why we couldn't take the cash and sent it back to her. I have sent in the 2010 990ez to the Feds, paid the State Fair bill of \$500, paid the AA Locator bill of \$120 and \$215 went to the area 35/36 workshop.

I purchased a Canon 85 printer for \$84.85 and some ink for \$6.98 and printer checks for \$100.98. I received an email from District 7 about sending thank you letters for group contributions. I had a conversation via email with Dist 7 about the importance of sending thank you letters. Nine days ago I received a call from a group in Chisholm that wants some help in filling out forms to get an EIN Number. I stated that this was bad time for me because I was in the hospital after emergency Gall Bladder surgery. So give me a little more healing time and I'll happy to them step through the process.

Now let's look at the reports:

(continued from page 16)

Area 35 Expenses Period 4

	June 1- July 31	Year to Date
Committee Meeting Rent	50.00	100.00
Area 35 Archives Rent	0.00	200.00
Northern Light Newsletter	0.00	759.00
Refund	0.00	40.00
Finance Oversight Committee	34.00	332.00
Total Area 35 Event Expenses	0.00	2,608.00
Total Officer and Action Chair Expense	1,420.60	13,395.38
Total Net Expense	1,504.60	17,434.38

Area 35 Income Period 4

	June 1- July 31	Year to Date
Total Group Contributions	4,502.86	17,019.10
Total Birthday Contributions	111.00	257.98
Grapevine Sales	104.51	104.51
Round-Up Contributions	234.00	284.64
Area Event Contributions	0.00	2,184.60
Total Other-Anonymous	0.00	300.00
Total Income	4,952.37	20,150.83

Area 35 Balance Sheet Period 4

	May 31, 12	Jun 30, 12	Jul 31, 12
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
Grapevine Cash Account	0.00	649.66	649.66
Area 35 Checking Account	14,332.99	14,968.52	17,131.10
Savings - Prudent Reserve	6,026.65	6,026.65	6,026.65
Total Checking/Savings	20,359.64	21,644.83	23,807.41
Other Assets			
Monies to Savings Acct	0.00	0.00	0.00
Petty Cash	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Other Assets	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	20,359.64	21,644.83	23,807.41

The balance sheet shows the Areas Year to Date expenses are \$15,703.38 under budget. We are also under budget for Group Contributions by\$7,778.40. Our Assets are staying flat; we have neither growth nor extreme loss of cash. Most groups do a terrific job about giving the correct information to receive proper credit for their contributions. They give the group’s service number, the group’s correct name and the group’s district number on their contribution. Unfortunately some groups do not. If your group doesn’t know its service number, they can obtain it from Sandy, our Group Records Secretary. The USPS will be stopping the address forwarding service soon so please use the new envelopes with the new correct address or go to our web site and get it. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Treasurer. Humbly in service, Steven L.

Committee Chairs and DCM Reports:

CPC – Roger R: Eleven members attended our break-out session this morning. Highlights include the following... District 5 has formed a CPC Committee and they are working on reaching medical professionals, District 11 is working on getting AA information to Pastors and medical professionals. District 8 conducted a workshop for local clergy and is attending a St. Louis Count Health and Human Services Event on October 8-9. I have been asked to attend this event. District 7 has a new PI/CPC Chair. I have been asked to gather sample information Packets for Professional Groups. I attended the recent Joint Area 35/36 Workshop. We talked about working together more on CPC ventures on a state-wide basis. I am looking forward to attending and speaking at the “Keep it Simple” round-up on Aug 10-12th. In Service – Roger R.

District 11 – Bill C., Alt DCM: WE had a potluck for Jim K’s visit to our district. 15 people attended and all had a nice time. We still have almost 50% participation at our district meetings but not all chairs are filled with correction, literature and CPC being the exceptions. Yours in service, Bill C., Alt DCM, Dist 11

District 18 – Neil R: not present

Grapevine – Carey A: The combined Grapevine/Literature met, 7 were in attendance. Shared what was available at Grapevine AA Grapevine.org – check it out! Shared GVR registration form called “Why should I be a Grapevine Rep”. Guidelines for Contributing to Grapevine... Articles, Letters, Humor and articles. Shared news, shared LaVina news and the 16th Anniversary Celebration, Grapevine Newsletter – everyone should subscribe. There is a Grapevine Quote of the Day which is on-line and a quote from past Grapevines. There is a Grapevine Wall Calendar 2013 which is now available. The 2014 Calendar is asking for submissions – AA Fellowship is invited to send photo’s for the 2014 Calendar. There is a Sobriety Calculator which shows how many years, months, days or hours you have been sober. In attendance at the Area Committee meeting today were 6 Past Delegates that are also GVR Representatives. Carey A., Area 35 Grapevine Chair.

District 4- Jeff C: Our last district meeting was July 21 in Kensington, MN. We had about 15 people in attendance and 8 groups represented. We had one new GSR and two people attended just to see what general service was about. I hope we see them again at our next district meeting. At the meeting I announced that I had taken a new job in another town. I will be moving from district 4 to district 1, at least I get to stay in Area 35! Our alternate DCM, Jim T will take over as DCM for the remainder of the rotation. We are also looking to find a replacement for our district literature chair. District 4 holds our district meeting on the 3rd Saturday of each month at rotating locations. The meeting is at 5:30 and it is followed by a Round Robin potluck dinner and speaker starting at 6:30. The Round Robin rotation is listed on the district page on the area 35 website. Our next meeting is August 18th in Alexandria. It is county fair season and we will have AA pamphlets at all five county fairs in our district, Douglas, Grant Pope, Stevens and Traverse. In order to keep costs as low as possible we provide literature and racks and ask a participating county agency to provide space to display our materials. Our district meetings have had a couple of repeating themes recently. We have had a lot of conversation about Singleness of Purpose. There are several members who regularly attend our meeting (some with many years of

(Continued on page 18)

(Continued from page 17)

sobriety) who do not understand the importance of this principle. We have also had conversations about the service in general, making reference to AA service materials in the Service Manual and several other publications. We are working with a new PI/CPC chair and are trying to get some committee work going around this important service function. Yours in service

District 15 – Pete B: We had an unmanned literature booth at the Stearns County Fair this year we had past issues of the Grapevine set out for the taking. We also had quite a few new comer packages taken by the second day. Literature has not been counted yet so not sure what else was taken. Upcoming events are Country Fellowship – Potluck Picnic with speakers-2pm, Lake Henry Annual Picnic, August 12 – Noon. Lion’s Park, Lake Henry. No speaker – just fellowship. 11th Annual Cold Spring Hog Roast on August 25th. Sportsman’s Park, Fellowship 1-5, Speakers after dinner. Our next district meeting is on August 6, 2012 at the Albany community center at 8:00 pm. Yours in Service – Pete.

Webmaster – Robert (Bob) B: I am sorry for the typo in the Northern Light. I’d like to say I planted the typo to see who was reading the Northern Light. It is just not the case. I will do better at reviewing my Northern Light reports. I’ve been keeping up with the calendar and single meeting updates. I have also got district schedules and asked to update the WEB. This is taking some time. I have to verify that the meeting is registered before I update the WEB. I am about half way through District 11s list.

We reviewed our meeting update procedure in insure that meetings are getting updated on our WEB site. We found that changes sent directly to GSO will not get updated on our WEB site. We are still searching for a solution to keep our web up to date I did pay LinkSky Value Host, our WEB host \$95.40. We are paid up until July 31 2013. I did attend the Area 35/36 workshop. There was a presentation of AAmeetinglocator.org. The purpose of the locator is to publish all AA meetings in and near Minnesota. The primary focus is for newcomers 9 beginners, still active alcoholics etc) to find meetings. AAmeetinglocator.org was demonstrated to the group. The first demonstration was a search. If we searched for a city in Minnesota the search returned a list of AA meetings in that city. The list displayed headers were not aligned with information. Days of the week were displayed as numbers and not Mon, Tue, Wed, etc. Hours were in one column and minutes in another. i.e a meeting on Monday at 8:30 PM was displayed as 2830 Yes2 is Monday, hour is 8, minutes are 30, and Yes for yes this is a PM meeting. In “map” view the map of the city was displayed and meetings were flagged. Selecting the flag displayed the meeting information. If there is more than one meeting at the location only one meeting is displayed. On the search pages days of the week had to be displayed as numbers. Many fields on this page used confusing input data. When enter data in a format that the tool did not expect, the tool did print a good help message. If Mon was entered for meeting day on the search page the tool would return an error and the help message: Day From must be a number (with or without a decimal point) Using a decimal point confused the tool and results vary. The Advanced Search page should not be part of AAmeetinglocator. The search fields on the advanced search page have nothing to do with AA.As a newcomer in AA I would have loved to have this tool. This tool loaded with ways not to find an AA meeting. I could have used this tool and told my counselor that there were not meetings on Friday nights at the alano club. My counselor would have told me to find a better AA meeting list. As a professional software developer I feel that this tool is a good example for what can be done. In its present state I do not feel that this tool should be on the public WEB. AAmeetinglocator has an excellent future. Let’s fix the user interface and display. Then we would be ready for a good WEB page. The database for AAmeetinglocator is GSO’s FMV data base. AAmeetinglocator could support the entire US AA meetings and the database for all these meeting is already available. Every area web site probably maintains a separate database for the meeting on their WEB site. We could take all the effort it takes to keep up with their area meeting list and focus that effort on keeping the GSO FMV database up to date. During our breakout session we talked about activating and updating the AAmeetinglocator ad hoc committee to drive updates to AAmeetinglocator. Area36 WEB committee was going the head this up. I have not heard from them. I am trying to contact them.

Archives-Antonette F: Greetings from up north! It has been a busy few months with the Archive Workshop. We had an Archives Workshop on June 16th in Hibbing. There were 18 in attendance. Brad gave an excellent presentation on AA history. We had good participation with all who attended. Some newcomers attended as well as Longtimers. I believe everybody learned something and the food was excellent! Thank you Brad! July 21st I attended the 35/36 Workshop in St. Cloud. It was again, a learning experience. See, you can teach old dogs new tricks... Archives Enthusiasts from Area 36 and with Area 35 talked about having a Joint Archives workshop. We will discuss at the meeting in Aitkin. Each day is a new beginning! Thanks for allowing me to be of service. Antonette

District 2 – Kim B: Not present

District 12 - Servando M: All is well in District 12. We have completed our rotation in Cloquet and will be moving on to the Duluth Alano this month. Our last meeting was the Delegates report and pot luck which was well attended. We recently had a church decide not to re=open and the meeting decided to disband and donated all of their literature to the district. Following the flood in Duluth, we had several groups that lost literature and were able to put all of the literature to good use.

Archivist - Brad I: Since the June committee meeting I gave a History talk at the District 9 Workshop in Hibbing. I attended the joint workshop in Saint Cloud. The next scheduled display is the Duluth Round-up in September. Recent contributions the Archives are a 1945 pamphlet “Booze and the Downfall of Nations”, a June 1936 “Time” Magazine with an Oxford Group article and a 1945 book “Alcohol, Science and Society” with a lecture by Bill Wilson at the Yale School of Alcohol Studies. Paul H., Area 36 Archivist, is scanning several items for me on an 11 by 17 scanner for display purposes. I wrote an article for the Northern Light but forgot to submit it and then went on vacation and missed the deadline. I recorded a Saint Cloud long timer, 40 years, in July. His memory is fading so the time to record our long timers is now. I am continuing to inventory the Archives collection. Please keep those district minutes coming. I am doing a little research per request on a dark district as to what happened before the lights went out. I hope this new P.A. set up works and I have mapped out the room in International falls for the Fall Assembly. Thanks for this opportunity to be of service, Brad I. Area 35 Archivist

Literature – Sean D: Good Morning. I trust this note finds all well and your days full of opportunity. Today the Literature action committee met with 5 Districts represented. We discussed the process of submitting Literature orders two weeks prior to the next Area Meeting so I can have complete orders. With the increase of no shipping charges (the order has to be \$500.00 or more) it is important to make use of consolidated orders. Please have your orders in by September 17th if you want literature in time for the Fall Assembly. The Action Committee also discussed the roll literature plays in reaching the still suffering alcoholic. I asked the members to bring back to the Districts and continue discussion so we could then have best practices. The PR release of the Big Book was named by the Library of Congress as one of the 88 “books that shaped America” Thank you for the opportunity to serve – Sean D.

District 13 – Scott B: District 13 hosted the Area 35/36 Workshop on July 21st at Calvary Community Church. The workshop had very informative breakout sessions. The turnout was smaller than I had expected, but the workshop was great. Our beginners meetings are still going strong. District 13 currently has a booth at the Benton County Fair. District 13 is also holding a treatment workshop on Wednesday the 8th of August at the St Cloud Public Library at 6:00 pm. All are welcome. Treatment and Corrections are still looking to add to their volunteer list for bringing in meetings to jails, Our House and Clara’s House. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Yours in service, Scott B.

District 5 – Heidi R: Greetings Area 35, District 5 holds a month meeting the third Monday of the month at 7pm at Freshwaters Church in Zimmerman, MN. District 5 has been keeping up with its obligations. We have just started another rotation of the probation meeting in Sherburne County. We are also holding weekly meetings in the Mille Lacs County Jail and the Sherburne County Jail. We are still looking for more volunteers to help with the meetings at the Sherburne County Jail. We are currently providing meetings two treatment centers one time a month. Starting August 9th is the Mille Lacs County Fair where we are having a manned booth. We have been working on getting all spots filled and there are still some openings. In order to have a booth at the Mille Lacs County Fair we need to have it manned at all times. We are working on updating and printing new meetings schedules for the district. We also started a district subscription to the AA Grapevine. At our last district meeting a proposal was brought up. This proposal has to do with the Area verses District expenses. A motion was made to add this proposal to the August Area Committee Meeting Agenda and passed. On July 15th we had our Delegates report back and everyone felt Jim did an excellent job. I want to thank Jim for speaking and for representing Area 35 and the General Service Conference. I also want to thank, Dave, from District 6 for finding the location for the Delegate’s report back.

Over the past couple month, I have been working on updating group information with the Area Group Records Secretary. I have also been mak-

(Continued on page 19)

(Continued from page 18)

ing sure information is correct on the Area 35 website. I have been visiting groups in District 5. I want to thank them for letting me speak and helping me update their information. I was able to get the Saturday Morning AA Group at the Princeton Alano Club registered. My goal is to continue working on updating group information and visiting groups. Yours in Service, Heidi R, District 5 DCM

Treatment – Randy A: We had 4 people in our committee meeting this morning. All district committees are being fulfilled. In District 1 Speakers are coming in the Glenmore Recovery Center every Saturday. In District 16 they are in the preliminary planning stages of hosting a Treatment Workshop, time and place to be determined. District 5 has people from Area 36 assisting in treatment commitments. There were discussions on topics discussed at Area 35/36 joint workshop. District 12 has a new Treatment Chair, Darlene B. that is not here today.

We attended the Area 35/36 Joint Workshop on July 21st, 2012 and also participated in the breakout sessions which were very informative. We had a combined Corrections/Treatment Workshop which was chaired by the Area 35 Treatment Chair due to the absence of both Corrections Chairs and the Treatment Chair from Area 36. The group conscious elected me s their chairperson. We had several topics we discussed being the first was: Area 35/36 Corrections collaboration discussing the need for long term contact persons to keep in touch with correctional professionals. “The Pink Can Plan” which is not 7th Tradition, but is used for buying literature for correctional inmates. Area 36 has a Google site for a district for contact information and documents page which is used for contact information and updates. The second topic was on: having a combined Area 35/36 Corrections/Treatment/CPC Breakfast or luncheon for professionals or find out when they have a state/county meeting to see if they would allow us to do a presentation during their workshop or event. We would have packets of information provided for their use. The third topic was on: Singleness of purpose AA vs Drug addicts and how to push singleness of purpose in Treatment Centers and how not to be too confrontational. Several pamphlets were of paramount importance. What AA does and does not do problems other than alcoholism, medication and other drugs. District 13 will be having a Treatment Workshop August 8th in Brainerd and there will be a “Bridging the Gap Workshop” in Bloomington, MN. September 7th-9th and there will be Area35 Treatment Workshop in Virginia, MN on October 20th.

District 1 – Irene J: Greetings from District 1! Our last District meeting was held on June 10th 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 group reports were given by those in attendance and our numbers seem to be about the same. We have some fun events coming up in our district and I want to mention them. August 17th, 18th & 19th the 5th annual summer Wild Rice Round-up will be held at the Sand Hill Bible Camp south of Fosston details can be found on the Area website... Great Event!!! Saturday, Sept 7th our end of the season celebration will once again be held at Farmers 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 a 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 a joy to work with them on these great events. We still have committees, chairs that need to be filled and when doing the visiting to meetings, will let groups know about chairs that need to be filled. We had a booth at the Fertile Fair and not sure how it went. I will find out next Sunday, Aug 12th at our District Meeting. Respectfully in Service, Irene J, DCM, District 1.

District 7 – Neil F: Greetings from District 7! District 7 meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month in Brainerd at the First United Congregational Church at 7:00pm. Our next meeting will be on August 16th. Currently the open positions are Alternate DCM, PI, and Archives. Cory B. was nominated and elected unanimously to serve as our CPC chair. He will be working on a CPC luncheon to be hosted by the district. We have noticed a dramatic drop off in attendance the past 2 years so we will be explaining ways to increase the attendance by professionals in our district. District 7 put up an AA booth at the Crow Wing County fair. We will be getting a report on how much literature was distributed soon. Experience indicates more literature is distributed when the booth is not manned. Our finances are healthy with a prudent reserve fund and adequate monies available for service. A few months ago, the district implemented an automatic call-forwarding system for our AA info line and the system is similar to what District 13 utilizes, thanks to that district for sharing the information. Now that we know it's been working we can say Thank You! We remain active in corrections and treatment. We are discussing ways to get literature out to various locations in the district and received some good ideas at this morning's PI/CPC breakout meeting. We are also still striving to get out to all 70 plus meetings in the district to visit and talk about what's going on as well as to welcome groups who are not currently represented. Lastly, the district recently created a website, the site is aacentralakes.org. WE have district meeting information posted there. We are looking for feedback and hope the site will be useful. In service, Neil, DCM.

PI - Robert (Butch) R: We met with CPC, 11 members attending. We shared on what our Districts are doing with P.I. - Libraries, Law Enforcement, Hospitals, Clinics and such. Some have manned phone lines that work well, putting on P.I. Luncheons. I will provide each District with procedures and approximate cost of putting on luncheons. It's always good to offer this opportunity for those who would like to find out more about us. The Area 35/36 workshop was one of the best we attended and hope they have more. Yours In service, Butch.

District 3 – Jim S: Our last district meeting was July 14th. We had about 18 people in attendance. Our next meeting is Aug 19th. We had our 2nd annual roundup July 6, 7 and 8. We had good attendance but will be looking at a different weekend so it doesn't interfere with the 4th of July. It was great to Kelly's story. All our positions are filled except webmaster. We currently have 3 nominees for that position. Due to several unexpected vacancies in our positions, we will create a complete instruction manual how each position is to be fulfilled and how to perform each position especially hotline, treasurer and webmaster. All our corrections and treatment commitments are being fulfilled and we have received enough 7th tradition donations to fulfill our financial obligations with a prudent reserve. I would like to thank Jim K. for a great delegate report. I am continuing to visit the groups throughout the district. In service Jim S.

District 6 – David A: My name is Dave A. and I am an alcoholic! On Sunday July 15th we had our Area 35 Delegate down to give his report to Districts Five and District Six. The only negative was that the air conditioning in the building was broken so it became a little hot. However Delegate Jim stuck it out and gave a good report. We had eight people from our district that attended which I thought was good compared to the last few years. There were other things going on at the church so after our meeting we were able to get in on an ice cream social that was winding down. On Saturday July 21st Saturday I was able to attend the Joint Workshop of Areas 35 & 36 in St Cloud. It was good to see some old friend from the south and get some insight about what others are doing in service work. I sat in on the Treatment and Corrections Committees. There was talk of Corrections Contact Programs, a transition fair, a national Bridging the Gap workshop this September, singleness of purpose and people from their Groups to make short presentations on selected topics and then those assembled get to discuss the topic cans. We are still working on having a district phone service. We are now polling our membership to see how much support we can get for manning this service. Hopefully this will help generate more interest. We are now planning to have a District Six Service Workshop possibly on the 27th of October. We are thinking of having our GSRs get this has been a good format for us in the past and the presenters get a chance to learn a lot from their preparations for their presentation.

We are still looking for more people to participate on our committees so that we can get more service work done as we “trudge the road of happy destiny”. I'm looking forward to attending the Fall Area 35 Assembly in October. Thanks, Dave

Group Records – Sandy H: Hi, I'm Sandy H, Alcoholic currently serving as Area 35 Group Records Secretary. I hope everyone is enjoying their summer. I attended the joint Area 35/36 Workshop in St. Cloud on July 21st. I really enjoyed and learned a lot of new things from this experience. I look forward to learning more at every AA function I attend. I have been busy working on updating FNV and trying to get updates for the groups in Area 35. I ask for your patience as I hopefully make progress not perfection. Would all DCM's please see me before leaving today? The last Northern Light had a lot of inserts and for this I am grateful, once again I would like to remind everyone that the Northern Light needs 600 flyers which can be mailed to me or to the Cold Spring Record and a check made out of Postmaster for \$75.00 which needs to be mailed to me, not sent to Cold Spring Record. I would like to thank all the DCM's for their help in updating Groups in their District. Give yourself a pat on the back. I will be looking into finding addresses for the Area 36 Officers and Chairs to send them a Northern Light. I attended the District 15/16 Delegate Report in St. Cloud. What an awesome time – Thanks to Jim K. I wish to thank everyone for their patience and this opportunity to serve Area 35. See you in International Falls!

(Continued on page 20)

(Continued from page 19)

Northern Light – Jana M: Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Thanks to Tom for the wonderful article, and Joanne past delegate for helping out by being my second pair of eyes, by assisting with editing. The deadline for Reports and Articles for the next Northern Light is September 1st. Reports articles and minutes should be sent in word format. Either open office or Microsoft word. I need to be able to manipulate size, since the page numbers of the Northern Light have to be in multiples of 4, and I have to remove last names for the online version. I also again want to encourage anyone to submit an article. Yours in Service – Jana M, Northern Light Editor

District 21 – Dave G: Our last meeting was July 9th. District 21 would like to express our Thanks to Jim Kath for giving us his report on the conference agenda. We didn't have the attendance of all of our groups, so we tabled business until our next District Meeting on 8/13/2012. I did have the opportunity to go to the 35/36 Workshop.

District 16 – Gene V: It is with gratitude that I serve as the District 16 DCM. District 16 holds its meeting the First Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm (note the time change from 5:30 pm) at the United Methodist Church, 1701 S.E. 8th Avenue, Grand Rapids, MN. Our next District meeting will be September 5th. Our District Secretary, Grapevine and literature committee chairs have resigned so we are looking for people to fill those positions. No questions or issues... Yours in service, Gene.

Corrections – Jeff E: Thank you to Nick for filling in and to Rolene for taking notes for me... Thank you to all volunteers and those supporting AA work in our Minnesota Correctional Facilities. I'm sorry I missed the Joint Area 35/36 Workshop on July 21st. I'm looking forward to the Transition Fairs at Rush City, Sept 21st and Moose Lake on October 4th. I will need one or two volunteers to help me with the fair at Rush City, Wednesday Sept 12th. If anyone in Districts 11, 7 or 12 is interested, please contact me. That same day there will be an informational workshop in Brainerd to help explain AA's work to the parole and probation officers of Crow Wing County. Mark Groves, the Facilities Re Entry Coordinator, along with Larry F and Mary M from Area 36 will be hosting this meeting. Anyone in Corrections or CPC from District 7 is invited to attend. Contact me for information on this event. I have applications for the Prison Background checks and attendance at Transitions Fairs. These applications should be sent in soon. More information can be found at:

<http://forums.doc.state.mn.us/site/tc/default.sapx> or at the website <http://www.doc.state.mn.us/> under "Quick Links." Also the annual Bridging the Gap workshop put on by the GSO is being held September 7-9 at the Airport Hilton Hotel in Bloomington. This event is held once a year at different locations across the county. I strongly urge anyone in Corrections or Treatment service to attend this workshop. I have registration forms for anyone interested. The cost is \$35 pre-registration or \$40 at the door. We continue to need AA's in many Districts to volunteer in service- hosting meetings in Correctional Facilities, writing letters to inmates and offering to get them to an AA meeting upon their release from prison, and providing literature for the inmates. Please bring this message back to your local groups. Districts 3, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13 were present today. It's still hard to get enough volunteers in some Districts for jail and prison meetings. Most facilities have a meetings going in – would be nice to have some relief. I am available to all Districts to attend local group meetings and to explain our involvement in jails and prisons and solicit volunteers and support for their District.

District 8 – Rolene L: District 8 had our Area Delegate's Report June 6th in Aurora. We would like to thank our Delegate Jim K for his very informational report. He let us know what is happening in Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. We had 40 in attendance. Also, how important it is that we support the Grapevine. Our Singleness of Purpose, how we need to keep our groups focused on Alcoholism. Always helping other Alcoholics and keeping our Traditions alive. District 8 has gone through two elections, a new Secretary and Treasurer. This month we are having elections for Alt. PI/CPC and Alt Archives. It is so important to have committed and communication as we are serving our District.

We also suggested that GSR's and Alt GSR's help out on a committee, getting active. Our Alt Chairs working with the Chairs is another important way to be of service. As I have our Alt DCM busy with items we need to address. Sharing our responsibilities with them. Working together. Working with others, commitment and communication. I also attended the Joint Area 35/36 Workshop July 21st in St. Cloud. I sat in on the corrections/treatment committee. Yours in service, Rolene

District 9 – John F: Meetings in District 9 are going well. No problems.

OLD BUSINESS:

Financial Oversight Committee Report: The financial review committee consisting of Susie A., Kelly D., Steve L., Sarah K., and Pete B. met at 9:30 a.m. at the Aitkin Committee Meeting to review the treasury reports and bank statements for period 4. The review committee verified that all income, expenses, and assets matched reports provided by Treasurer Steve L.

The committee is pleased to report that all financial information for Area 35, period 4, from June 1-July 31, is accurate as reported, all monies are accounted for. On a related note, Steve is doing a phenomenal job as treasurer and continues to improve upon the record keeping system. Thank you. The Area 35 financial review committee.

Area 35/36 Workshop –

State Fair AA Booth – Butch: Area 35 is responsible for Saturday, Sept 25th from 9-11 (Dist 5) and 3-5 which as of today is still open. If you wish to volunteer, see Butch following the Committee Meeting.

Fall Assembly –Cutoff date for blocked room reservations is September 5th. Rooms will cost \$104.00 plus tax. Flyers are on the back table. The Committee Meetings will meet Saturday Morning at 10:00 am.

NEW BUSINESS

Area 35 Inventory-AREA 35 INVENTORY

This inventory will consist of seventeen questions. These questions were taken from an Area 35 Inventory held at the 2010 Spring Assembly (previously taken from an Area 35 Inventory held at the 1993 Spring Assembly) with additions. It is important that input is collected from throughout the Area for this to be an effective inventory. We feel these questions should be brought back to the Districts and Groups for input.

The first hour and a half of our inventory will consist of four breakout sessions. Our whole Assembly will be split up into four groups to discuss these questions. Each group will have four questions including one common question. Four DCM's will act as moderators.

We will then, after a dinner break, meet as a full body and discuss main points brought up at these sessions. The DCM will read the question and give a brief review of discussion held in his/her breakout session. The Inventory Moderator will then take any suggestions and comments from the entire Assembly.

The seventeen questions to be used in the Area 35 Inventory are as follows:

1. Is the Area passing down and collecting information effectively for General Service Representatives, Districts and Action Committees?
2. Do all Districts feel apart of the Area and receive equal attention and service?
3. How well is information regarding Agenda Items, Financial Reports, Archive Items and Grapevine materials being relayed to the Districts and Groups?
4. How well are Districts and Groups concerns, ideas and needs being addressed by the Delegate, Treasurer, Archivist and Grapevine Chairs?
5. Are the Action Committees doing enough to assist Districts in committee work?
6. Are we spending money prudently as an Area? Consider the following:
 - Expenses
 - Committee Work
 - Communications (Northern Light, Mailings)
 - Accommodations (Coffee, Room Rates at Assemblies, Workshops, Area Committee Meetings)

(continued on page 21)

(continued from page 20)

7. How well is information regarding Area Workshops, Group Records, Literature availability, and Public Information materials being relayed to the Districts and Groups?
8. How well are Districts and Group concerns, ideas, and needs being addressed by the Alternate Delegate, Group Records, Literature and PI Chair?
9. When Area decisions are made, is there the correct balance between group conscience and the “Right of Decision?” (Concept III)
10. Are Assemblies conducted expediently and effectively? Consider the following:
 - Length of reports
 - Saturday night Open Meeting or conducting business
 - Taking a lunch break on Sunday or ending at noon
11. How well is information regarding Area Assemblies/Committee Meetings, Northern Light distribution, CPC materials and Treatment Facility needs being relayed to the Districts and the Groups?
12. How well are District and Group concerns, ideas and needs being addressed by the Area Chair, Northern Light Chair, CPC Chair and Treatment Chair?
13. Is adequate opportunity given to all to speak and participate in Area Assemblies, Workshops and activities?
14. Are Area Workshops worthwhile? How about the format?
15. How well is information regarding Area minutes, Web Page updates, Correctional Facility needs and Archives information being relayed to the Districts and Groups?
16. How well are District and Group concerns, ideas and needs being addressed by the Secretary, Webmaster, Corrections Chair and Archives Chair?
17. What other concerns do you have that are not addressed in this inventory?

It is important that we do all we can at any and every level of service in carrying the message. It is this Committee's hope that at this inventory, not only do we point out our deficiencies but also offer suggestion on how to improve our Area. We feel that a good Area inventory will be healthy for Area 35.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Area 35 Fall Assembly – October 6th & 7th, 2012, International Falls, AmericInn Hotel and Suites
 Area Committee Meeting – Sunday, December 2nd – 9:00 am
 Area 35 Winter Workshop – January 19th & 20th, Walker, Chase on the Lake
 Area 35 Spring Assembly – April 6th & 7th, 2013, Grand Rapids, Sawmill Inn
 Area 35 Fall Assembly – October 5th & 6th, 2013, Detroit Lakes, Holiday Inn
 Area 35 Spring Assembly – April 5th & 6th, 2014, Duluth Holiday Inn
 Area 35 Fall Assembly – October 4th & 5th 2014 Grand Rapids Sawmill Inn

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

District/Area Expenses in Regards to Delegate coming out to Speak – District 5 is proposing “Area 35 to assume responsibility in paying for the travel and lodging expenses for the Delegate, Alternate Delegate, or for a member of Alcoholics Anonymous acting on behalf of the Delegate or Alternate Delegate, related to the ‘Delegate’s Report Back’ to a district, but limiting the expense of the venue where the Delegate’s Report Back is being hosted, to the hosting District, except in circumstances where the Delegate or authorized party by the Delegate deems necessary.” The intent of the proposal is so that the burden of financial responsibility falls on the Area 35 purse as a Delegate’s Report Back is viewed as an essential accountability service. This proposal allows the Delegate to budget for providing this service, as well as spreads out the financial burden of such a service over the Area instead of a hosting District. Having enjoyed a Delegate from a nearly central location within Area 35, this is not a tremendous problem at present, but in the future, it could be a large financial burden on a District located in one extreme extents of the Area. For instance, if a future Delegate is elected from Ely and the District covering Moorhead would like a Delegate’s Report Back, travel and lodging would need to be provided for and in this era of expensive gasoline and sometimes limited lodging options, these expenses could be considerable.

Area 35 has had a history of doing a fantastic job of meeting District requests for Area services, even covering expenses when a District could not, and it could be construed that this proposal is unnecessary in light of these informal arrangements, but this motion is meant to clarify the responsibilities of the service being requested as well as to give a clear understanding to both the Districts and Area 35 what to expect with a Delegate’s Report Back.

Area 35 Inventory at Fall Assembly: Motion made by Heidi R. to do an Area Inventory at the Fall 2012 Assembly in International Falls for Area 35, Seconded by Jeff S. Discussion followed. Motion passed – 18 in favor/6 opposed. A list of the questions will be mass distributed to all DCM’s by e-mail so all DCM’s can run these questions by their Districts.

Expense reports/budgets will be needed by the October Fall Assembly for Treasurer to complete the 2013 Budget.

Steve L. asked the Area is he could purchase another printer for \$85.00. Jim made a motion to agree that he could buy a printer, Sandy seconded the motion, discussion followed. Motion Passed with 19 votes yes and 1 vote no.

Once again – the Food was great! Kudos to the Kitchen Staff!!!!

August Area Committee Meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer

2012 – AREA 35 SCHEDULE

You can find out more about events on area35.org

Area 35 Fall Assembly - October 6th & 7th, 2012

AmericInn Hotel & Suites
1500 Highway 71
International Falls, MN
218-283-8000

Area Committee Meeting - Sunday, Dec. 2nd - 9:00 am

Aitkin Alano Club
322 1st. Avenue N.E.
Aitkin, MN

Area 35 Workshop - January 19th & 20th, 2013

Chase on the Lake
502 Cleveland Boulevard
Walker, MN

Area 35 Spring Assembly - April 6th & 7th, 2013

Sawmill Inn
2301 Pokegama Ave
Grand Rapids, MN
218-326-8501

Area 35 Fall Assembly - October 5th & 6th 2013

Holiday Inn
1155 Hwy 10 E.
Detroit Lakes, MN

Area 35 Spring Assembly - April 5th & 6th, 2014

Holiday Inn
200 West 1st St.
Duluth, MN

Area 35 Fall Assembly - October 4th & 5th 2014

Sawmill Inn
2301 Pokegama Ave
Grand Rapids, MN
218-326-8501

August 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
U.S. Federal Holidays are Red			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
<div><div></div><div>http://www.Printfree.com</div><div></div></div>						

September 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
U.S. Federal Holidays are Red						1
2	Labor Day 3	4	5	6	7	8
Grandparents Day 9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	Fall Begins 22
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29
<div><div></div><div>http://www.Printfree.com</div><div></div></div>						

Upcoming Events in Areas 35 & 36

Note: Area 35 events take precedence!

22nd Annual Heartland Roundup

September 7th - 9th, 2012
Beautiful Northern Pines Assembly Camp Grounds
Part Rapids, MN

Area 35 Treatment Committee Workshop

Saturday October 20th, 2012
Holy Spirit Catholic Church – Social Hall
306 2nd St. So.
Virginia, Mn 55792
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

30th Annual St. Cloud Roundup - October 26th, 27th & 28, 2012

We Aren't A Glum Lot
Rivers Edge Convention Center
10 Fourth Ave. S.
St. Cloud, MN
Info: 320-398-6118
kwood@meltel.net

WCRAASC

West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference
March 1 - 3, 2013
Rapid City, SD

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 6 - 7, 2012
AMERICINN INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MN
AGENDA

<div>_____ 9:00 A.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 P.M. Assembly Convenes</div> <div>_____ Call to Order Open with the Serenity Prayer</div> <div>_____ Why We Need A Conference</div> <div>_____ Recognize Past Delegates</div> <div>_____ Add to Agenda</div> <div>_____ Approve Spring Assembly Minutes</div> <div>OFFICER REPORTS</div> <div>_____ Delegate – Jim K.</div> <div>_____ Alternate Delegate – Michael (Jake) J.</div> <div>_____ Chair – Kelly D.</div> <div>_____ Secretary – Mary S.</div> <div>_____ Treasurer – Steve L.</div> <div>COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS</div> <div>_____ GRAPEVINE – Carey A.</div> <div>_____ District 4 – Jeff C.</div> <div>_____ District 15 – Pete B.</div> <div>_____ WEBMASTER – Robert (Bob) B.</div> <div>_____ ARCHIVES – Antonette F.</div> <div>_____ District 2 – Kim B.</div> <div>_____ District 12 – Servando M.</div> <div>_____ ARCHIVIST – Brad I.</div> <div>_____ LITERATURE – Sean D.</div> <div>_____ District 13 – Scott B.</div> <div>_____ District 5 – Heidi R.</div> <div>_____ TREATMENT – Randy A.</div> <div>_____ District 1 – Irene J.</div> <div>_____ District 7 – Neil F.</div> <div>_____ PI – Robert (Butch) R.</div> <div>_____ District 3 – Jim S.</div> <div>_____ District 6 – David A.</div> <div>_____ GROUP RECORDS – Sandy H.</div> <div>_____ NORTHERN LIGHT – Jana M.</div> <div>_____ District 21 – Dave G.</div> <div>_____ District 16 – Gene V.</div> <div>_____ CORRECTIONS – Jeff E.</div> <div>_____ District 8 – Rolene L.</div> <div>_____ District 9 – John F.</div> <div>_____ CPC – Roger R.</div> <div>_____ District 11 – Becky N.</div> <div>_____ District 18 – Neil R.</div>	<div>_____ 2:30 P.M. Break</div> <div>_____ 2:45 P.M. Break Out Sessions For Area 35 Inventory Items</div> <div>_____ 4:15 P.M. Break</div> <div>_____ 4:45 P.M.</div> <div>_____ GSR Sharing Session</div> <div>_____ DCM Sharing Session</div> <div>_____ Area Officers and Committee Chairs Meet</div> <div> </div> <div>_____ 6:00 P.M. Dinner (On Your Own)</div> <div>_____ 7:30 P.M. Area 35 Inventory Main Session – Dennis B. Area 36</div> <div>_____ 9:30 P.M. Ice Cream Social</div> <div> </div> <div>Sunday, October 7, 2012</div> <div> </div> <div>_____ 7:30 – 8:45 A.M. Big Book Meeting</div> <div>_____ 9:00 A.M. Assembly Reconvenes</div> <div> </div> <div>_____ Business Not Completed Saturday</div> <div>_____ GSR Sharing Session Report</div> <div>_____ DCM Sharing Session Report</div> <div> </div> <div>OLD BUSINESS</div> <div> </div> <div>_____ Financial Oversight Committee Report</div> <div>_____ Area 35/36 Workshop – Next Workshop July 20, 2013 in St. Cloud</div> <div>_____ State Fair AA Booth</div> <div>_____ Area Assemblies 2013-2014</div> <div> </div> <div>NEW BUSINESS</div> <div> </div> <div>_____ Area 35 Inventory Committee</div> <div>_____ Delegate Expenses – District 5</div> <div>_____ Calendar of Events</div> <div>_____ TBA</div> <div>_____ Ask it Basket (Past Delegates)</div> <div>_____ Adjourn</div>
--	--