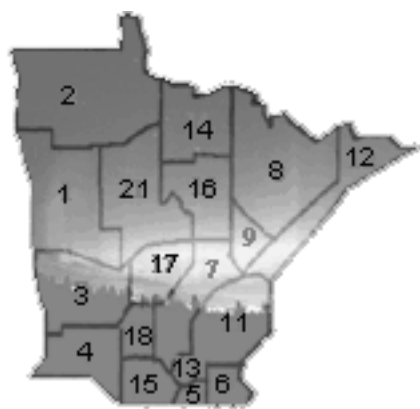


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Deadline for the next
Northern Light is
March 2nd, 2013

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

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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!

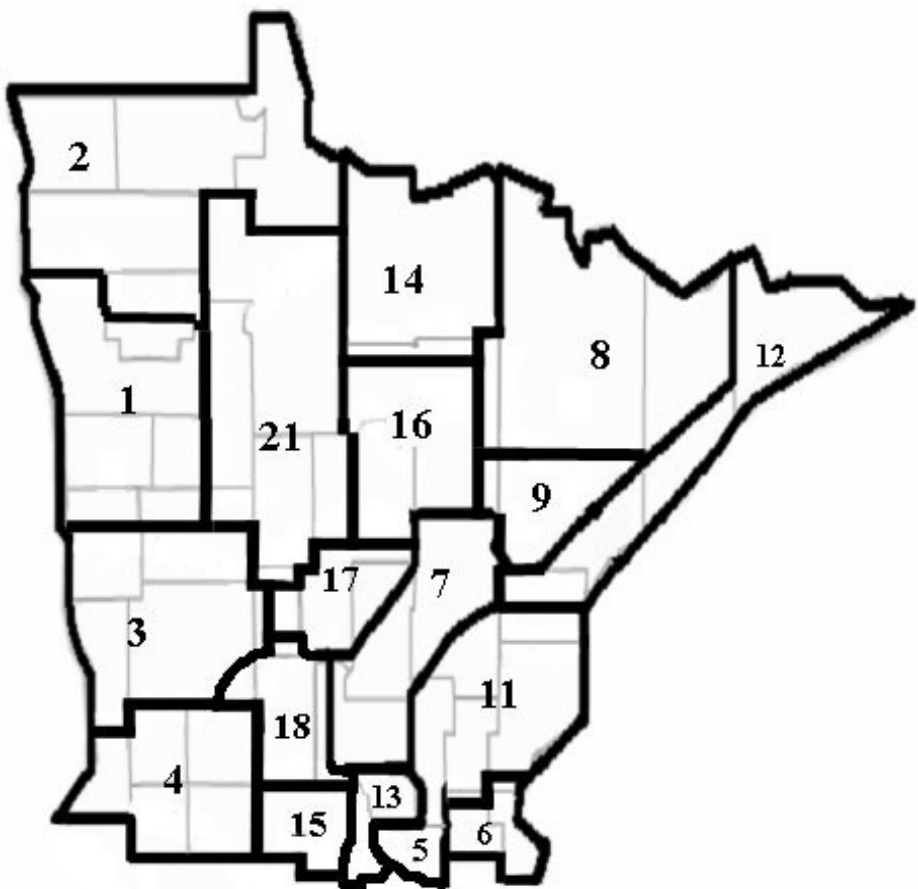
OUR PAST DELEGATES

Panel 60 Jon C.	2010-2011	Panel 26 Vern R. (deceased)	1976-1977
Panel 58 JoAnne N.	2008-2009	Panel 24 Gordon B. H.	1974-1975
Panel 56 Jerry S.	2006-2007	Panel 22 Frank 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 M. (deceased)	1981-1982		
Panel 28 Garfield (Duffy) S. (deceased)	1978-1979		

The Delegate’s Duties

- Though the high point is the Conference meeting, the delegate’s job goes on year-round and involves all aspects of the Conference structure. The delegate should:
- Attend the Conference meeting in April, fully prepared. Immediately upon election, every delegate is put on the G.S.O. mailing list to receive Conference materials.
 - Communicate the actions of the Conference to area committee members and encourage them to pass on this information, and the delegate’s enthusiasm, to groups and to intergroups/central offices. If an area is too large for the delegate to cover in person, he or she will ask area officers and committee members to share the load.
 - Be prepared to attend all area, state/provincial, and regional service meetings and assemblies. From these meetings, delegates come to better understand their own areas and can make suggestions for the Conference agenda. Here, too, they come in contact with A.A. members who might not be reached otherwise.
 - Help area committees obtain financial support for the area and G.S.O.
 - Provide leadership in solving local problems involving the A.A. Traditions.

- Remind G.S.R.s to inform groups and individuals about the A.A. Grapevine and Conference-approved literature.
 - Cooperate with G.S.O. in obtaining information—for example, making sure that up-to-date information reaches G.S.O. in time to meet the deadline for each Issue of the A.A. directory and helping carry out the triennial membership surveys.
 - Visit groups and districts in the area whenever possible.
 - Work closely with committee members and officers, sharing experience throughout the year. After G.S.R.s and committee members have reported on the Conference, learn from these A.A.s how groups and members have reacted.
 - Assume added responsibility if the area chair and alternate chair are unable to serve. Or, if an area committee is not functioning effectively, the delegate may take an active role in remedying the situation.
 - Keep the alternate delegate fully informed and active, so that the alternate can replace the delegate in an emergency.
 - Late in the second term, work with newly elected delegates to pass along a basic knowledge of Conference proceedings and problems.
- (from The A.A. Service Manual, pages S44-S45)



Area 35

Northern Minnesota

Zone I

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

Zone II

- District 3** - Audubon, Barnesville, Battle Lake, Cormorant, Deer Creek, Detroit Lakes, Dilworth, Elizabeth, Erhard, Fergus Falls, Frazee, Hawley, Henning, Lake Park, Moorhead, Osage, Ottertail, Pelican Rapids, Perham, Underwood, 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, Isle, Little Falls*, McGregor*, Palisade, Pierz, Pilager*, Waukon
- District 11** - Finlayson*, Grasston, Henriette, Hinckley*, Lake Lena, Malmo, Moose Lake*, Mora, Ogilvie, Pine City, Quamba, Sandstone, Willow River
- District 13** - Kimball, Rice, St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids, Waite Park, Foley
- District 17** - Backus, Cross Lake, Nisswa, Pequot Lakes, Pillager*, Pine River
- District 18** - Browerville, Cushing, Eagle Bend, Little Falls*, Long Prairie, Motley, Parkers Prairie, Staples, Verndale

Zone IV

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

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

District Meeting Location Information

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

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

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

District 4
3rd Saturday of Month, 5:30 p.m.
Contact DCM for location (It Rotates)
Potluck at 6:30 p.m.
Round Robin at 7:00 p.m.

District 5
3rd Monday of Month, 7 p.m.
Freshwaters Church
12475 273rd Ave NW
Zimmerman, MN 55398

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

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

District 8
Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m.
General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Contact DCM for location “It Rotates”
Cook, MN

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

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

District 12
3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30 p.m.
Contact DCM for meeting location (It Rotates)

District 13
1st Monday of Month, 7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
St. Cloud Alano Club
127 7th Ave. NE
Saint Cloud, MN 56301

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

District 16
1st Wednesday of Month, 6:30 p.m.
United Methodist Church
1701 S.E. 8th Ave.
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Handicap Accessible, Non-Smoking

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

District 21
2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m.
Bemidji Alano Club
3802 Greenleaf Ave NW
Bemidji, MN 56601

Districts 14, and 17
Not currently active or unknown

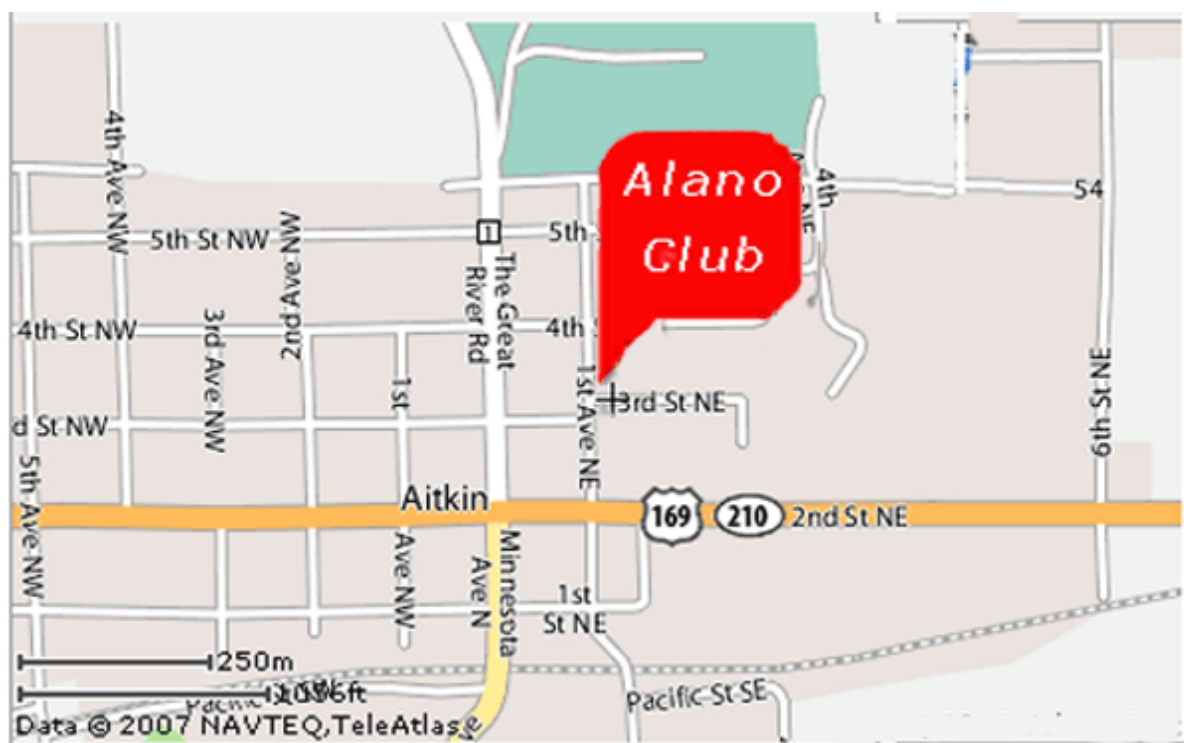
Inclement Weather Procedure For Area 35 Events

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 Area 35 Members,

It is a true privilege to be serving as your Area 35 Delegate and I thank you for this opportunity. I blessed to be around so many active members who are dedicated to carrying the message to those who still suffer.

I attended the January Area 35 Service Workshop in Walker, MN and was impressed by many of the district presentations. I want to thank Jake for his work on the event and to all the members who presented at the workshop. I also was privileged to sit down and talk with Ted S., past West Central Trustee, about his experiences as both a delegate and trustee in our region. Thanks again to all the participants and attendees of this event.

Another exciting development that has taken place this past month was the elections and start up of district 14. It has been amazing to see a district and its members show such enthusiasm and love for service. These district members have provided a great example that active participation and enthusiasm are essentials to service.

It is a busy time of year for preparing for the 63rd Annual General Service Conference. I should be receiving the agenda and background information in the middle of February and will have copies available for DCM's and interested AA members at the February Committee Meeting in Aitkin. I will also be attending the WCRSC being held in Rapid City, South Dakota March 1st through March 3rd. I encourage anyone who is able to attend to do so as it is a great opportunity to gain a better understanding of the background information related the GSC agenda items. It also allows a great opportunity to network with others throughout the West Central Region involved in serving the alcoholic who still suffers.

I am looking forward to the opportunity to report back to districts following the Conference and encourage DCM's to begin scheduling times for those reports as soon as possible. I thank you for this opportunity to serve.

Yours In Service,

Jim K.
Area 35 Delegate

ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT

Here we are a new year and looking back on one just finished. We've had some great assemblies, forums and workshops. We've spent time sharing about agenda items and taking inventories all in the hopes that we can bring another newcomer too the tables of AA. As we trudge this road together we remember why we are so blessed to be sober in Alcoholics Anonymous and why we serve.

I am finally getting physically better and am encouraged by feeling mentally better also. I am feeling more energetic and looking forward to serving this year. I have been attending fellowship gatherings, an open meeting in Cook and The Area Workshop in Walker. Thank you Dave and District 21 for helping host the workshop while there were less people we managed to enjoy great presenting by those able to make it. Ted S., past West Central Trustee, did a great job sharing with us. Thanks Ted. Sharing from the floor was extremely powerful. I would have had my complete report in this edition of the northern lights but due too a computer virus I am unable to finish it at this time. I will have it in the next issue and maybe a copy at the area committee meeting.

We are set to have a Zonal Forum in Grand Rapids Feb 9th, for Zone 1. Thank you to Gene and crew for lining this up. I am looking forward to the WRAASC in March along with spending all that time in the car with 3 of the most fun characters in Area 35. It has been awesome to hear about what is happening in District 14 and lets all continue to support them anyway we can. Looking forward to more positive happenings in our Area and am available if you need me in your district. Thanks for allowing me to serve.

Yours in Service,

Michael(Jake) J.
Area 35 Alternate Delegate

AREA CHAIR'S REPORT

Greetings and Happy New Year Area 35!

I hope you all enjoyed your holidays. Here we are at another start of another year of service in northern Minnesota. I have been reflecting on our last year together and have thought about all the hard work that has been done by so many in service to continue to carrying the message of hope to the still suffering alcoholic. Thank you all for your service to Alcoholics Anonymous and I truly look forward to this next year serving with all of you as your Area 35 Chair.

What exciting news that District 14 is now an active District again! And what a chain of events that occurred to make this a reality. They held their elections on January 8th and filled all their positions. This was only made possible by so many that were willing to make it happen. It was so nice to receive the minutes from their very first District meeting held. Congratulations to them all and welcome back District 14 to Area 35!

You all should have received the Area 35 Inventory that was done at the Fall Assembly along with information added under the topics by the Area Officers from Heidi. The comments were only added to provide information and help with the process. I hope you have all had time to discuss them in your groups and at your District meetings. All the topics on the Inventory will be available for discussion, I have added it to the Agenda for the Committee Meeting and it will again be added to the Spring Assembly. Please feel free to bring all your thoughts and concerns on these topics. The Area needs your input on how we can better serve you. Again I would like to thank the Committee members Sean, Neil and Heidi for their work on this. What do you say that we make 2013 another great year together in service!

In love and service,

Kelly D.
Area 35 Chair

Area 35 Inventory 2012**List of Concerns and/or Areas to be Addressed****Communication****Clarify the Roles of Area Chairs and Officers**

The guidelines of the Area Officers and Committee Chairs are posted on the Area 35 website at www.area35.org. They are updated by the Area Officers and Committee Chairs and sent to the Area 35 Chair by June of the 2nd year of each rotation.

Procedures for Area Chairs and Area Officers visiting District's

Under the Area Officers and Area Chairs guidelines it states, when asked, for Delegate, Alternate Delegate and Chair. Be available for Web, Treasurer and Secretary. It states work with Districts for Treatment. The rest of the Chairs do not have anything listed on their guidelines for visiting Districts. There is no set procedure for this in place but if the Area would like the Officers to develop such procedures, a committee could be formed to do so.

Understanding what Area Chairs and Officers can do for Districts and Groups

This would be covered in the outline of duties for Area Officers and Chairs but if Districts and groups would like to see things added, they could offer suggestions to add to the Area Officers and Chairs duties.

Want to see more action taken to reach the dark districts in Area 35

On November 24, 2012 the Area Officers went to International Falls and held a meeting with groups in that District to offer our help to get their District up and running again. A positive outcome was that there are individuals that are willing to do this and will be starting their District again in the near future. Officers are available at any time to help them with this process. Area Officers may consider setting up a meeting for District 17 as well to address needs in the District.

Passing on information from outgoing Chairs/Officers to incoming Chairs/Officers

This is part of the Area 35 Officers and Chairs guidelines that are posted on the Area 35 Website. When researching their guidelines it was found that not all serving on the Area in positions had this in their guidelines. We will need to add it to Group Records, Literature, Grapevine and Northern Light.

Want to see more Archives Material

We can have more displayed at our Area 35 Assemblies, sometimes space available for this can be an issue. Request can be made to Brad our Area 35 Archivist to bring items to various Area 35 events.

Continued on next page

Getting more involvement from District and Groups

This was one of the main purposes of the Zonal Forums. If there are other suggestions as well, the Area officers would be open to them.

WCRAASC attendance and expectation for Area Chairs and Area Officers

Attendance at Conferences (WCRAASC) are listed on the Area 35 Chairs and Area Officers guidelines and posted on our Area 35 Website. This may be a topic that is worth adding to the January Workshop or Committee Meeting in the future to get the Area view on who should attend.

Updating Websites**Updating AAmeeetinglocator.org (user friendly, easy access to meetings)**

The Area 35 and Area 36 Chairs met on this issue in 2012. The result is that the Adhoc Committee will be meeting again from both Areas to work on this. This is an ongoing process and the committee has begun to visit and provide direction in this area. This has been added to the Area 35 Agenda's for ongoing updates.

Updating Area 35.org (user friendly, easy access to meetings)

This is an ongoing process that deserves regular consideration. Current Webmaster has done an excellent job but needs to insure the future Webmasters have the same knowledge base.

Procedures**How and when to order Literature**

The Area may benefit from doing a better job of passing information on to the groups regarding literature ordering. Current Chairs have been doing a lot of ordering for groups which is not necessarily a part of their duties. News from GSO indicates that online ordering may be available in the relatively near future. Once online ordering is available, minimum order for "Free Shipping" will be \$500.00

Area Officer, Area Chair and DCM reports (purpose and time)

Page S39 of our AA service manual states (Typical Non-Election Assembly) The Agenda for a regular assembly might be something like the following:

A moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Chairperson's report on committee activities since the last meeting.

Delegates' Conference report or recent communications from GSO.

Secretary's Report.

Treasurer's report (usually a good time to remind everyone of the leaflet, Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix, a useful guide for helping each group decide how to plan its regular contributions to AA services).

Report from chairs of special committees, correctional facilities, treatment facilities, public information, cooperation with the professional community, Grapevine, literature, convention, etc.

District reports from committee members-on district meetings, district problems, growth etc. The purpose of the reports is to let the members know what activities Officers and Chairs have been doing for the Area. A DCM report let the members know about what is happening in each District and provides an opportunity to share with others things that are working well or not working well in each District. Area Officers and Chairs are allowed 4 minutes and DCM's are allowed 3 minutes for their reports. We may benefit from better timing each report to insure that they stay within set time limits.

Literature and Grapevine Inventory and procedures for ordering literature from the Area

The Grapevine and Literature Chair should be able to provide an inventory of items in stock on an ongoing basis. The current Literature Chair has provided a service of ordering literature for groups but this is not necessarily the purpose of this position.

Understanding and following Robert's Rules of Order. Have a workshop or presentation on Roberts Rules of Order and how they apply to Area 35

This is a fine suggestion and may be worthwhile to have a presentation at our January Workshop on new Chair years to insure understanding of incoming Chair and Area members.

Agenda Items**Using a Straw Vote or Binding Vote (DCM'S, Area Officers, Area Chairs, and GSR's) on Agenda Item at the Spring Assembly**

This has been the current practice that has taken place at the past number of Spring Assemblies. If this practice should be changed so that only voting members of the Assembly should be allowed to vote on agenda items, a motion should be made at either the Area Committee Meeting or Assembly and voted upon for a change to be made.

Continued on next page

Having breakout sessions on the Agenda Items or only going through Agenda as an Assembly

Current procedures have allowed for current Delegate to discuss this with the Area Chair to set Agenda for Spring Assembly. The decision to go to breakout sessions was to increase time efficiency and allow members to share in a smaller venue. It also allows for the breakout session Chair to report back to the body what the session came up with for each item. If there is a wish to go to a whole group rather than a breakout session format, this should be brought up and a motion made at either the Committee Meeting or Area Assembly.

Distributing Agenda Item background information

The process was reviewed at the December Committee Meeting and it is suggested that it be reviewed by Delegates in the future to insure DCM's understand the process and get appropriate background material at the December Committee Meetings. (Delegate does not receive the Agenda Items no earlier than February 15th)

Area Finances**Emailing Treasury Reports**

Treasury reports are available at all Area committee Meetings and Assemblies. Emailing these out to Area Officers, Chairs, and DCM's after each meeting could be done. A list of past Officers can be made also.

Presentation and/or report on budgets

This could be added to a committee Meeting or Area Assembly per bodies request if they thought it would be beneficial. It may be somewhat time consuming for such an event but perhaps Officers and Chairs could provide a brief description of what they would like to do during the upcoming year in the Northern Light reports to allow members to see what activities they plan on doing as the Chair or officer.

Financial Oversight Committee reviewing the Areas spending (prudent?)

This has been a topic that the Oversight Committee has reviewed and just gave direction on at the past December Committee Meeting (reducing the number of times they meet, not to include Assemblies) Does the Area body want the Oversight Committee to review the spending of the Area as part of their duties?

Northern Light hard copy expenses

There is a draft report in the Northern Light on this. Perhaps an overview of yearly expenses of the Northern Light could be included in the Northern Light editors report at the end of the each year of their rotation.

Meetings

Area Assemblies (length of time format/agenda) Currently the Area Chair has the duty to set the Agenda for each event. If topics should be added, any member can request to bring something up. For efficiency purposes, it is the current practice to have the Chair set the Agenda. Members can provide suggestions on evaluation forms.

Purpose and direction of Zonal Forums

The brief purpose of the Zonal Forums is to provide a venue for local members contained within a zone to meet the Area Officers and see what activities they currently do and to see what other activities they could do to serve Districts. They also allow an opportunity for members to see how the Area functions without going to an Area Committee Meeting or Assembly. The basic function is to act as an outreach on a more local level.

Purpose and direction of Action Committee Chair workshops

Workshops are not listed on any of the Area 35 Committee Chair guidelines. Area Chair Workshops are activities that each committee Chair has the opportunity to do to carry the message in their perspective area. There is no set procedure in place that directs Chairs to either hold or not hold Workshops. These activities should be left to the discretion of the respective Chairs and reflected in their yearly budget.

**FALL ASSEMBLY 2012 EVALUATIONS
INTERNATIONAL FALLS
TOTAL REGISTERED 120 – TOTAL EVALUATIONS - 49**

DCM (8 total)**How did you like the Assembly?**

I thought we had a great Assembly and inventory.
Enjoyable as always.

Continued on next page

Good.

Informative.

Did not to much repetition.

I believe our Area has done a wonderful job setting things in order to serve us. Great job!

Good, very informative. Inventory very good.

How can we better meet your needs?

I think those things were discussed in the inventory.

Not sure.

Increase attendance.

Stop people repeating.

Keep up the great work.

Coffee did not taste very good.

Other comments or suggestions:

Very good Assembly, now if I do my job.

Great job! The Chair was on top of everything.

Get fellowship.

No.

Need to bring more items back to group for informed group conscience. AA starts with the individual members.

GSR'S/ALT GSR'S (total 28)

How did you like the Assembly?

This was my first assembly. I enjoyed the breakout sessions because it made it easier to share issues and ideas. I liked the organization of the Assembly with time limits. It really moved along well.

Very well.

I really liked it. The fellowship was fantastic. Business is interesting.

Great.

Very good Assembly.

Great! Good discussion. Went smooth.

Good – got overwhelming on Saturday!

2nd time for me. Much better second time.

This was my first Assembly and I loved it. Very appreciative of the GSR Orientation and the warmth and friendliness of all involved.

Enjoyed everything!

What is the necessity of 2 Assemblies each year when we only vote at 1? Somewhat unorganized.

It was very informative and fun to come to. The groups were a great place to get more contacts.

2nd Fall Assembly. I liked it very much. Great job by all.

First one. Enjoyed it very much in spite of all the sitting.

OK.

I liked it a lot. Organized very well. Good response to most of the questions.

Good job!

Very good and organized.

Much better than last Fall Assembly. Gained more from GSR discussions.

As GSR this has been a learn as you go journey each Assembly, workshop, etc. I go I learn more as well as meet more of the Area Chairs, who to go to with questions. I have gathered a lot from this Assembly so yes, I enjoyed this Assembly, International Fall, accommodations.

OK. Great fellowship. Should have main room for fellowship (Fellowship Hall). All day long coffee-snacks. To long Sunday. Not organized. Keep things have to be rolling.

I was pleased overall. This was my first time attending an Assembly in Mn (I was a GSR in IA many years ago.)

The attendance seems to be a bit low, which may have been due to the weather and distance

(their loss) The facilities and location were great. I enjoyed the people and process.

Yes.

Very informative, set up was comfortable, audio great, helpful to have restaurant within facility. Free coffee :-)

I liked it a lot. Good space, good coffee, a little pricey on the rooms. Enjoyed the fellowship, learned a lot.

I liked it. It was a useful learning experience.

This was my 1st Assembly so it was a lot of information however, in time I am sure I will have a better understanding of what it all is and how it fits together. Thank you for your service to Alcoholics Anonymous.

I enjoyed the Assembly. It brought up issues that were effecting the Area and Districts that I did not realize. It also made me thankful for my District and my DCM.

How can we better meet your needs?

I would have liked more detail from the GSR Orientation. I still feel like I don't really understand the 3rd Legacy or the ? pyramid.

Continued on next page

Move the inventory out to 4 years.

I am really not sure.

I really believe that in the “General Assembly” the GSR's (new) should be recognized, not just in GSR Orientation.

Communication, communication, communication.

Help with GSR training.

No suggestions. Looking forward to the next Assembly!

Easier contact with Area information.

Move the Assembly closer to the middle of the Area.

I thought everything was great. I cannot think of anything.

I cannot think of anything.

Why is there so much emphasis on past Delegates, the ego is fed enough. Should be all emphasis on NEW GSR's.

Isn't that what this Assembly is all about?

You have excellent weekend.

Way to long. To many speakers that didn't mean much to me as a GSR. People are loosing interest after so long.

My needs met. I have support of my group and our District and Area. Have done well for my learning experience.

Inventory main session should start earlier. Have written answers ahead of time and report to group at the same time. More time between meal and meetings.

I found less value in the GSR Orientation Workshop. I understand its purpose and value, but it didn't quite meet my needs as someone who has been a GSR before. I also understand you can't meet everyone's needs, but a streamline option on an alternative session may be more effective.

I think the needs are being met. Ely would love to host an Assembly.

Have the next one in Ely!! :-)

Keep up the good work. Continue to meet our needs. Do another inventory in 2 or 4 years.

Max time on all speakers.

Just be helpful understanding of a “newbie” and soon I will grow in to being an understanding GSR.

More detailed information about the issues prior to the Assembly.

Other comments or suggestions:

I don't know how this would possibly fit in the time frame, but special topic breakout out sessions would be great.

I thought of this because it seems like Districts have different needs. For example, some rural Districts could use information on “going dark” or how to join in with other Districts. There are probably other “special topics” where we could benefit from others experience. I liked the comment about having more visual material. I would probably take more out of it if it was not only listening.

Fans were disruptive.

I did not see the Area Inventory questions until 2 weeks before the Assembly so my group was unable to have an opinion, nor did my DCM so our District was not able to form an opinion.

Issue contact directory for Area and District volunteers for use by GSR's.

Keep costs to GSR's as low as possible. Many of us from District 12 were not able to attend due to money.

Have some fun events going on as well.

More time for informal fellowship.

Keep up the great work. I am blessed to be in the best group, best District and best Area. These Assemblies remind me of that.

Looking forward to more of the same.

Our room was dirty. We upgraded to have a jacuzzi and there was someones scum in it. Very dirty hotel and very disappointed. We told them about it and instead of removing money from the bill they called 10:00 pm saying they would come and clean. Wrong!

Keep doing what your doing. Great!

Beat to many topics like a dead horse.

Candle lite Saturday night meeting. Sunday GSR's and DCM should have a time limit. As far as discussion of 14, Kelly lost control. Jim should have intervened take over and not prompted Kelly. 10 minute breaks should only be 10 minutes.

Good job!

Looking forward to Spring Assembly.

Thank you!

Do the ride share or room share thing on the website. More ice cream for the social.

During the GSR meeting I found a need for the Area Officers to help the Districts get more people involved. More GSR's and interested people to be District members.

OTHER (total 13)

How did you like the Assembly?

I thought it was fabulous. Well organized.

OK.

Good.

Informative.

First time at an Assembly. Everything was very fun and informative.

This Assembly was worth the drive! The hotel rooms were reasonable, the food was fantastic, and the participation by past Delegate's was good. It seems that our smaller, close quarters Assemblies encourage interaction between all members of the Area.

Very good, efficient but friendly. It was good because my attitude was good, open. The Assembly was very conducive to maintaining that attitude. Somebody must be doing something right.

Always a learning experience as well as a test of patience and tolerance.

Great! Let's do it again.

Love it, great coffee! Appreciated the inexpensive facility (money well spent), Well organized, good participation.

Excellent! Inventory was informing and necessary. Kelly did a fantastic job and so did all involved with this Assembly. Best one yet for me.

Good Assembly. Each time I come I learn at a different level. I will "keep coming back." That is how we learn about how this works.

Great information and fellowship.

How can we better meet your needs?

Mix business with some fun (skit? Inspirational?)

More coffee towards end, Sunday morning.

You are doing just fine.

No elevator. Rooms were to far from stairs.

Continue to encourage our Area Chairs and Officers to go out and personally seek out our newest GSR's. We need to resist the urge to catch up with old friends when there are some new and "lost" GSR's.

Since we have no control over the people not here, I guess simply continue to be as attractive for others as you are for me. Since "we" is "me", I guess the ball is in my court to do my part.

Free massages.

Is the northwest area Mn represented by AA? Can we hold an Assembly in the northwest area Mn?

For future inventories I believe that if all members participated together the conversation would go better and the time used would be the same.

I know we need to rotate sites and locations. I also know the further away they are, the more expensive for those who attend and that less GSR's do attend. Could we try to pick more central cities in Districts?

It was nice to not have to pay for coffee. How much did we go through? Just curious.

More directions on where the meeting are and where new people in service need to go at the beginning of the Assembly. Missed the Treatment meeting because I didn't know where to go.

Other comments or suggestions:

Keep going to areas that need more participation.

A lot of time was wasted by the people not being up when following the present report. (I mean get them up so we don't have to wait for them to get out of their chairs and walk up to the front.)

Since "we" know it we simply need to do it.

God bless you!

Many people are intimidated by the "mike", especially during the inventory. Is there anyway we could do this anonymously? (Like the "Ask It Basket") Thank you again!

It would be helpful for new people to have a brief introduction in the morning. Maybe open first, give directions and then break for the GSR Orientation and Committee Meetings. I did not care for the round tables, I like the theater style seating.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

As I write this report for the Northern Light I realize that my term is half over. Last year at this time, I was new and not too sure about my responsibilities. I am one year old as your Secretary and more secure in my position. I am looking forward to attending the January Area 35 Workshop in Walker. I plan to enjoy watching the District's presentations and spend time with new and old friends that I've made in AA. District 16 is hosting the next Forum on February 9th in Grand Rapids and the Spring Assembly will also be in Grand Rapids. This will be fun in that District 16 is my home District. I think Gene V and the District 16 Officers and committees are exceptional people and I'm proud to be a member of District 16. I printed off flyers to hand out at the Workshop regarding the Spring and Fall Assemblies. I plan to help as much as I can to make the Spring Assembly a success and memorable experience for all who attend.

Thank You for your trust in me as your Area 35 Secretary.

Mary S.

Area 35 Secretary

TREASURER’S REPORT

Year End 2012 Area35 Northern Light Treasurer Report

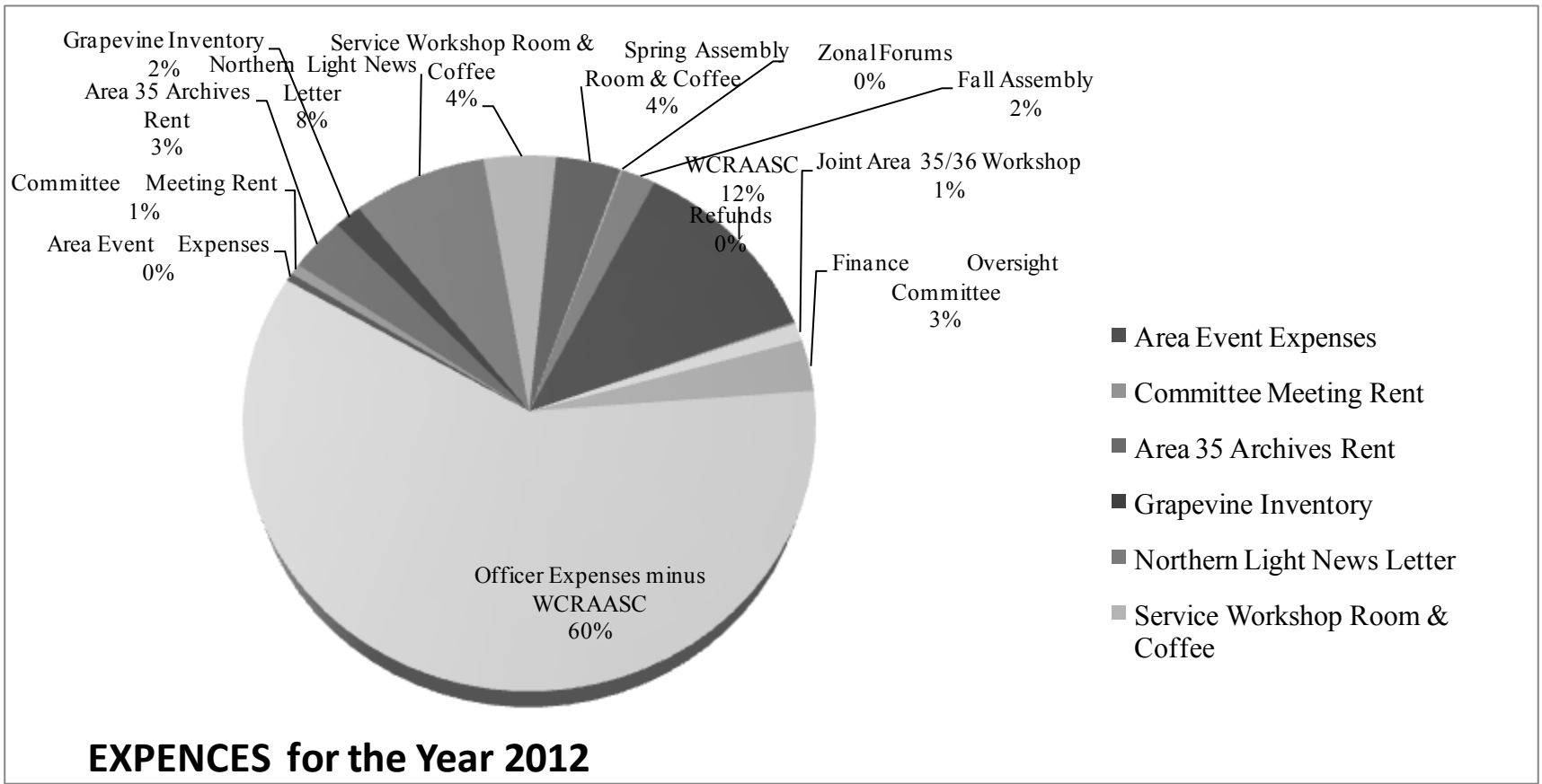
Great Job Area 35! The balance sheet shows the Area’s Year to Date Income to be \$34,134.90. Group Contributions for the year were \$ 27,307.79 under budget by \$ 15,202.21 or 36%. Area’s Year to Date expenses were \$30,054.88 or 42% under budget. So, we increased our overall cash assets by \$ 4,080.02 so we have neither excessive growth nor extreme expenditures. The tax snafu is over (HOORAY!). The IRS sent me a letter stating the \$ 1,992.90 due for penalty, late fees and interest was adjusted and reduced down to nothing owed (ZERO!).

I attended the 2013 Area workshop in Walker. The presentations were very informative. I thought all the presenters did a bag up job doing the research and back ground information needed to give an informative presentation, not just read out of a book. Expenses were minimal; coffee was the only major trouble spot. The problem was professionally handled by the District 21 host volunteers. I want to thank the District 21 volunteers. They did a beautiful job in making the workshop a smooth success.

Most groups do a terrific job about giving the correct information to receive proper credit for their group 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, you can obtain it from Sandy, our Area 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.
Area 35 Treasurer



Expense	Amount	Percent
Area Event Expenses	144.00	0.48%
Committee Meeting Rent	200.00	0.67%
Area 35 Archives Rent	1,000.00	3.33%
Grapevine Inventory	479.00	1.59%
Northern Light News Letter	2,383.00	7.93%
Service Workshop Room & Coffee	1,275.06	4.24%
Spring Assembly Room & Coffee	1,148.94	3.82%
Zonal Forums	40.00	0.13%
Fall Assembly	600.00	2.00%
WCRAASC	3,592.93	11.95%
Refunds	40.00	0.13%
Joint Area 35/36 Workshop	323.21	1.08%
Finance Oversight Committee	929.55	3.09%
Officer Expenses minus WCRAASC	17,899.19	59.56%
Total Expenses Jan 1- Aug 31 2012	30,054.88	100.00%

COMMITTEE REPORTS**GRAPEVINE**

As this New Year is started, thinking about life today and how lucky I am to have recovered from an illness that not everybody had the chance at! I am very thankful for Alcoholic Anonymous and the power that I need to surrender daily. With that said Happy Sober New Year, doing what we need to be doing, caring the AA message!

Just hoping that you have renewed your Grapevine subscription or maybe you will start receiving the Grapevine in 2013. Also subscribe to the Grapevine quote of the Day it is just daily quotes sent out from quote out of Grapevine materials, just go to AAGrapevine.org. The number of subscribers to the Grapevine Daily quote is nearing 15,000 subscribers since this started in June- its free!

Audio Project:

Beginning in mid-January 2013, AA Grapevine, Inc. will begin collecting recorded stories in member's own voices. For those interested in participating visit the <http://www.aagrapevine.org/audioportal> for additional information to learn about the project.

More photos are needed by January 15th 2013 deadline extended for 2014 Wall Calendar, would be great to have Area 35 on calendar for 2014!

The Twelve Traditions Checklist has been updated purchase a 50 pack for \$5.50; maybe your group is doing a group inventory in 2013!

I mentioned at the area committee meeting in Aitkin in December we as a area/group-district in area 35 need to keep the communication lines open so make sure your Grapevine representative is attending the functions weather at your group business meetings, district meeting and all area 35 function if at all possible or have a representative their.

Download the entire Grapevine News at aagrapevine.org/gvr.

Did you know? Grapevine is represented in approximately 10% of our groups through Grapevine Reps [GVRs]. Hoping in Area 35 that this will change and close to 100% of groups in area 35 will have a GVR representing their group in 2013. LaVina is represented in an estimated 1% of Spanish-speaking groups.

Placed a order of Grapevine material and will have on display at the area workshop in Walker in January, also received a packet of AA Grapevine Complimentary Materials, also at area 35 Committee meeting in Aitkin asked all GVR's and DCM that were present to fill out this form and I mailed in to Grapevine so all Districts represented at committee meeting will have Grapevine material.

Two things on my mind: Not much movement so far as our past delegates {retired past delegates} coming up with a skit or some type of presentation for the Grapevine dressed in purple cluster of Grapes. But things are more hopeful in 2013! Also moving in to the last year of this rotation how are we doing with new subscriptions and are you recycling your Grapevine and LaVina? Maybe give your sponsor a subscription in 2013! Thanks to Paul M. for his sales/arm twisting at area35 committee meeting sold out all Calendar and pocket calendars, maybe he would be willing to write an article to this Northern Light on his experience with being a GVR representative for district 5

Thanks for letting me be of service to Area 35

Carey A.
Grapevine Chair

WEBMASTER**Facelift: www.area35.org:**

Our WEB site had a facelift. Have your seen it? I'm still running spell check on all the files and fixing the typos. A bug was discovered using IE version 7. Working with Neil F., DCM district 7, we were able to fix the bug within 30 minutes. The calendar on our WEB is a big challenge. The current software is so outdated it cannot be updated. New software will require all calendar events to be re-entered. We have 208 event schedules in 2013. Events are being added weekly.

Continued on next page

District WEB Pages:

Each District in area 35 has a district WEB page on www.area35.org. Take advantage of your district page. Let me know what you would like on your pages and I will make it happen.

Moving Forward: Area 41, Nebraska, has meeting mapping software. They were willing to share and I have a copy of their software. I have converted what they had to our WEB site. This software was not complete. The database end was missing. Area 41 took the data from GSO database and seeded a MySql database. They did this over a year ago and have not updated their records or their mapping software database. No software was written to update their database when group information changes. I am working on a design that will seed our database and allow updating all from our FMV database. Work continues and I expect to have this finished sometime this year.

**AA Meeting Locator
Ad-Hoc Committee Report
January 15, 2012**

Is it time for AA to have a North America Meeting Locator? Today I use my cell phone to find restaurants, auto repair, hotels, and even pet kennels. All I have to do is ask my cell phone to find pet kennels and it will find and map local pet kennels. To stay sober I need to attend AA meetings. Technology is to the point that I should be able to ask my cell phone to find AA meetings and I should have a map to the local AA meetings or AA meetings anywhere in North America. GSO has a database of all our AA meetings. GSO prints meeting directories. I can read the Big Book on my cell phone. Its time for GSO to listen to our needs and get our meetings on the map!

On December 29th our AA Meeting Locator Ad-Hoc committee meeting finally met. We learned that GSO is not interested in taking on a project the size of AA Meeting Locator and refuses to even look into a project of this size. Per www.AA.org under How to find AA meetings GSO writes “This Web site does not provide A.A. meeting information directly. For meeting information, contact a local A.A. resource that provides this information” As a committee we felt that a meeting locator would be an excellent tool for GSO to directly help the individual AA member and AA as a whole.

We discussed redoing Minnesota Meeting Locator. After much discussion we determined that the size of this project is beyond the scope of 2 year web volunteers and should be designed and maintained by a professional web design company. We came up with a list of requirements and will solicit bids for a professional Minnesota AA meeting locator. Our committee is also pursuing other members of the West Central Region to include them in an expanded West Central Region meeting locator.

What about our current AA Meeting Locator. The company that hosts and maintains www.aameetinglocator.org was not invited to our meeting. The owner of the company that supports aameetinglocatr.org needs direction and we are not providing that direction. Area 35s access to aameetinglocatr.org is through area 36. For the past year and since the demonstration of aameetinglocotr.org in July, no effort has been made to fix our current joint effort web site. I have learned that the day/ date formatting issues are beyond the technical capabilities of the hosting/ support company. The advanced search page that allowed searches for family members plus other non AA related items has finally been removed. Only one meeting shows up per map location. It is still my opinion that area 35 should stop supporting the web site aameetinglocator.org. The site should be taken down and visitors redirected to sites where they would be able to find AA meetings. Your input on the current AA meeting locator is important. Please review aameetinglocator.org. We will be discussing the current AA meeting locator at our next assembly in April.

Our next Ad-Hoc Meeting Locator Committee meeting is scheduled to be held at the West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference (WCRAASC). This would allow other areas to participate in a meeting locator discussion. Our delegates have decided not to add new sessions to the WCRAASC. If our Ad-Hoc Committee meets at the WCRAASC it will not be a WCRAASC scheduled meeting. I have a work scheduling conflict and will not be able to attend the WCRAASC.

Bob B.
Area35 webmaster

COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED**PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Greetings from the freezer a taste of winter from old.

Not much happening here other than trying to plan a couple of Workshops before the end of the rotation. I have been passing out info on P.I. Luncheons and hope to hear that some will be taking place. As I have said it is time consuming but rewarding. I attended the Workshop in Walker, one of the best ever. The presenters did a good job a lot of effort was put into their presentations. The turnout wasn't that great but this time of the year can have an effect on that. Will be starting to set up for the State Fair Booth a little earlier this year so volunteers can look on their calendars if they wish to participate. I personally found it rewarding and well worth it. I hope to attend the Service Conference in Rapid City. I will be attending some upcoming events in my home District prior to the next Aitkin Committee and if not before I will be seeing many of you there.

God Bless the Journey continues.

Butch R.
Area 35 PI Chair

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

As we move into 2013 I would like to encourage all of our Districts in Area 35 to be as active as possible in carrying our message to professionals who come into contact with potential members of our fellowship.

At our December Area Committee Meeting I passed out sample informational packets for different types of professionals as such as clergy, healthcare and business managers. If any district wants more information on there materials please feel free to contact me.

Due to a planned surgical operations/recuperation period I was not able to attend our January Service Workshop. I am thinking that was the first January Service Conference I have missed in the past eight years. I have heard through the unofficial grapevine it was a great workshop.

I would like to attend the WCRSC in Rapid City in March- pending approval of our area chairs attending this event at our February Committee Meeting. This conference that is attended by chairs and officers from eight western states gives us an opportunity to learn about CPC activities in other areas and become familiar with the conference agenda items that will be discussed in our districts and at our Spring Assembly. I am having preliminary discussions with Carla N. of Area 35 on a state-wide conference for older and physically disadvantaged individuals to be held in

CPC report continued

Duluth, MN in 2013. Our area will be asked to fund our shared participation in this event to carry our message to a population we have not specifically reached in the past. I look forward to seeing you all again soon at our February Committee meeting.

In Service,

Roger R.
Area 35 CPC Chair

ARCHIVIST

Hello all. We all survived the weather at the Workshop albeit my feet got very cold from a draft that came in through the doors by the lake. The presenters did a wonderful job.

The district archives workshop in the Brainerd area was cancelled due to weather. My schedule is relatively open for 2013 local workshops and long timers' panels. I am not going to be able to attend the Duluth Round Up due to a family wedding that weekend. I also cannot attend Founders Day this year since the event got pushed back and now conflicts with the December committee meeting. I am going to Rapid City for the WCRAASC in March and am looking forward to the wonderful drive. I do plan on bring some stuff to display to the spring Assembly. I hope we have some room.

Recent contributions to the archives have been minutes from several districts and the joint Areas corrections minutes. I also received a 50's vintage paperback "The Lady is a Lush: with a great lurid cover. I am still working on the inventory and data base and captions for pictures to put on the webpage.

See you all in Aitkin,

Brad I.
Area 35 Archivist

ARCHIVES

Greetings from Northern Minnesota! Only in Minnesota can you go from January thaw to the deep freeze in a matter of days. I had the privilege of attending the workshop in Walker. It truly is a privilege to be involved in an organization that strives for progress, not perfection. I need to remember where I came from so I know where I want to be. I am looking forward to attending all the functions I can get to, that is where my energy gets renewed. Thanks to all the archivists out there who work very hard at preserving our past in order to insure the hand of AA will always be there. See you in Aitkin.

Your trusted servant,

Antonette F.
Area 35 Archives Chair

COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED**TREATMENT**

Greetings! I hope that each of you is finding a way to keep warm this winter as it has been extremely cold so far. Not too much has been happening yet as far as the Treatment Committee information on Agenda items from GSO. I will keep the Area 35 Treatment Committee updated on all the pertinent information that comes in.

On Saturday January 19th and 20th, 2013 we attended the Area workshop in Walker and enjoyed the excellent presentations put on by the Districts. You could tell very well that they did their homework on most of the topics. Our past Trustee Ted S. had done an excellent job in his sharing session and speaker meeting as well. There have been several requests for "Bridging the Gap" temporary contact program as we stay in contact with Minneapolis Intergroup most of the time there is very good communication between us. At times it is hard to find enough people willing to be contact people around our Area and telephone calls or e-mails are sometimes not returned for whatever reason. Service work is essential when bridging the Gap requests is made as well as willingness to help the still suffering alcoholic.

Yours in Service,

Randy A.
Area 35 Treatment Chair

CORRECTIONS

Committee work continues with Area 36. A proposal will be made at the February Aitkin Committee meeting. If you have any questions concerning Correction cooperation with Area 36, please email me at corrections@area35.org. I was happy to attend the Area 35 Winter Workshop in Walker. It's always fun to see my extended AA family and catch up on the latest news.

Yours in service,

Jeff E.
Area 35 Corrections Chair

LITERATURE

Greetings Area 35. I trust this note finds all well with 2013 starting off by exceeding all expectations!!

I'm sorry to have been unable to attend the workshop due to a business conflict. I did make arrangements to have all Literature orders available for those who asked. This is why I think the world of this fellowship; even when the first volunteer was sidelined in Detroit Lakes with radiator problems on the way to the conference, a second was quick to respond to make sure the orders were picked up and all needs were met. Thanks for your efforts Dan and Jim!!!

Literature report continued

Featured pamphlet this issue is P-33; *It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell*. This is an illustrated pamphlet which presents the experience of seven inmates who found A.A. while in prison. It also offers suggested do's and don'ts for staying sober after release and is recently updated with contemporary stories from A.A. members, containing new sections on sponsorship, the Twelve Steps, what to do after release.

Please get Literature requests to me by February 12th so I can get an order off to New York in time to have available for the February 24th meeting in Aitkin.

Grateful in Service,

Sean D.
Area 35 Literature Chair

GROUP RECORDS

All I have to say is BRRRRRRRR!! Enjoying the weather everyone!!!! I apologize right away I am sorry that this issue is out a little late, my daughter and I took a trip Jan 21-28th to visit family in San Diego. I have been sick with the nasty flu bug so my updates have been slow. I did receive a flyer that will be in this issue of the Northern Light. I will be handing out group information sheets again at the February Committee Meeting so be looking for yours. If you would like a flyer placed in the Northern Light I need 600 flyers either sent to me or the Cold Spring Record and a check made out to POSTMASTER for \$75 to defer the cost of mailing expense. If you are not receiving the Northern Light and are suppose to please get in contact with me I am grateful for all the help suggestions you all have. Thank you and see you in April.

Yours in service,

Sandy H.
Area 35 Group Records

NORTHERN LIGHT

Hello Area 35. Since it is Conference time again. In the articles section is something from Bill W. at the 1954 General Service Conference. There is also an article from Dr. Bob on cultivating tolerance. Something that is always helpful when working together in service. And a moving article from our own archives chair. Overcoming adversity with the help of AA. I strongly encourage you to write about your experiences in AA. This is YOUR newsletter I would like to here from YOU.

Yours In Service,

Jana M.
Northern Light Editor

ARTICLES**Humbled and Filled With Gratitude**

My name is Antonette and I am an alcoholic. I am also a wife, mother, daughter, sister, sponsor, friend, counselor, and not a bad bowler. I now can add cancer survivor to my list. In August I had a suspicious mole removed that was malignant. The process of testing, diagnosing, planning the treatment and the agonizing wait time in between has been a truly spiritual experience. By the grace of God, the cancer did not spread to any other place, it was removed and no chemo is necessary. I am humbled and filled with gratitude. I found strength and support by going to a lot of meetings, talking to my sponsor, along with a lot of prayers that got me through. Never once did I think about drinking as a solution. I have the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, the people around the tables along with many friends to thank. For that, I am truly grateful.

Antonette F.
Area Archives Chair

The Great Debate and the Future of A.A.

By Bill W., General Service Conference, 1954

This is the closing hour of the Conference, one of the greatest hours that I have ever lived because, I believe, it marks the date when this Society has really gone on its own, and will become forever saved from any or all power that may threaten it.

Each Conference has its own distinct personality and achievement. More than any other, this Conference, I believe, had confidence. More than any other, it envisioned its responsibility now and for all time to come. Confidence and responsibility have become the keynotes.

As recently as six or eight years ago, my own confidence in our destiny was terribly shaken. Among us there had arisen a terrible risk. Like all of the risks and struggles in A .A., however, this was concerned with the universal question:

"What is best for A.A.?" The debate was about whether or not we would have a Conference. Back in those days the Traditions had taken form and had just been put on paper, but there still remained this terrific question of how to guarantee our overall function, how to create a structure that could withstand power drivers and ravages of time and of adverse circumstance.

So I took the problem to the Trustees of The Alcoholic Foundation, the board of A.A. members and friends of A.A. that we had put together in 1938. We were sitting there as an incorporated board, providing service that would enable this Society to hold together to carry its message; and we still assume the right to be the guarantors and guardians of its tradition and general welfare. We had aggregated a self—assumed authority, and quite properly during the infancy of the movement. We had aggregated the authority to print the literature, to help resolve group problems, to be answerable to the public, to administer your funds, to provide your mirror of A.A. life in a monthly magazine. All of this authority we had simply assumed and by common consent in 1945 the movement was only too glad to have us do this job.

But the day might come when a great blunder would be made; when there might be a great scandal, when there might be a great religious or political division. And the day might come when from sheer remoteness and lack of interest or understanding, the support of this overall function might melt away. Moreover, the movement, out in the group and area level, had begun to say that they wished to take their affairs into their own hands, even as men coming of age.

So the debate turned on how A.A. as a whole could take its affairs into its own hands and be secure. How could Service Headquarters and the Board of Trustees, custodians of the vital authority the movement had delegated, and with demonstrated capacity to perform movement-wide services - how could they be linked to the movement and to the world outside? When I began to appreciate how little real linkage there was, I get scared to death. I went to my friends the Trustees and said: "There has to be a hook—up. This movement has now grown to the point where there must be some means by which it can look after its own affairs, if it wants to. And even if it doesn't want to, it is entitled to a look."

Well, my old friends said to me what many an old—timer around A.A. still says: "Let's keep it simple." To me, the real issue was: should we keep it simple by getting you people in here to see that it lasted, or would we make it complicated by keeping it so simple that it would break apart. The result of this debate, which lasted until late 1950, was the Third Legacy Program, in which the General Service Conference is the vital force.

Continued on next page

To overcome the objection that there would be terrible politics in the selection of Conference Delegates at the grass roots, we had to go in for a species of political invention. We had to eliminate hotly contested elections that leave behind hostile minorities. And we had to do away with personal nominations from the floor. The final process did just that. It was the process that got you here feeling like servants, not senators — and without leaving much, if any, hostility behind you.

Then came another question: How would the Delegates be related to the Board of Trustees who already had legal rights, who possessed responsibility for our public relations, who had title to our publications and who served as custodians of A.A. funds? Legally, what power could the Conference exercise over all these things? What influence could you have upon the selection of future A.A. Trustees themselves?

The answer is that, legally, the Conference could not take away the authority granted to the Trustees, if the Trustees chose to hold on to it. But, as you know, the Trustees have wisely consented to make themselves amenable to the desires of the Conference. They said, and rightly: "Let us keep the legal form of the things we need to transact business. But let us, on any two-thirds vote of this Conference, in which we also participate, be traditionally under a mandate from this Conference. Let us be part of this Conference, but a minority, and let us hereafter, when we name successors to A.A. Trustees, submit such names to a committee of the Conference. And when an out-of-town A.A. Trustee is sought, let us make appropriate inquiries within A.A. in the region under consideration."

And thus, in general principle, there came into being the structure of the Third Legacy. Today in the last hour of the time of this experiment, I share with you the promise of its certain success and am more moved than at almost any time in my A.A. life. The moment of the transfer of authority to serve, from us old-timers to the movement, is at hand and will be certified, let us trust, in 1955.

We have had under construction all these nearly 20 years a way of life, which we might say is housed in the A.A. Cathedral of Spirit. Standing on its floor are 120,000 who stand in safety because the Twelve Steps, the principles on which we stand and by which we live, are inscribed thereon. And this floor is of ever—expanding, illimitable dimensions. Four years ago in Cleveland, with the validation of the Twelve Traditions, we realized that we had placed 12 wonderful buttresses as insurance that the great walls of the Cathedral would not fall. Now we are at work on the final construction, the spire of our Cathedral of service, wherein shines the beacon light to those who are still in the dark. The work on the spire is not yet complete, but our confidence is that it will shine throughout the world, touching the most distant beachhead, for so long as God wants it.

On Cultivating Tolerance

By Dr. Bob S.

During nine years in AA, I have observed that those who follow the Alcoholics Anonymous program with the greatest earnestness and zeal not only maintain sobriety but often acquire finer characteristics and attitudes as well. One of these is tolerance. Tolerance expresses itself in a variety of ways: in kindness and consideration toward the man or woman who is just beginning the march along the spiritual path; in the understanding of those who perhaps have been less fortunate in education advantages; and in sympathy toward those whose religious ideas may seem to be at great variance with our own.

I am reminded in this connection of the picture of a hub with its radiating spokes. We all start at the outer circumference and approach our destination by one of many routes. To say that one spoke is much better than all the other spokes is true only in the sense of its being best suited to you as an individual. Human nature is such that without some degree of tolerance, each one of us might be inclined to believe that we have found the best or perhaps the shortest spoke. Without some tolerance, we might tend to become a bit smug or superior - which, of course, is not helpful to the person we are trying to help and may be quite painful or obnoxious to others. No one of us wishes to do anything that might act as a deterrent to the advancement of another - and a patronizing attitude can readily slow up this process.

Tolerance furnishes, as a by-product, a greater freedom from the tendency to cling to preconceived ideas and stubbornly adhered-to opinions. In other words, it often promotes an open-mindedness that is vastly important - is, in fact, a prerequisite to the successful termination of any line of search, whether it be scientific or spiritual.

These, then, are a few of the reasons why an attempt to acquire tolerance should be made by each one of us.

**Area 35 Committee Meeting
December 2, 2012
Minutes**

Area Committee Meeting called to order with the Serenity Prayer

Past Delegates recognized: Susie A., Panel 48, Tom A., Panel 50, Charlie C., Panel 54, Jon C., Panel 60

Additions to the Agenda:

West Central Regional Conference 2013

Background Information to the Districts

Approval of August Committee Minutes

Minutes were accepted as written by Jeff E., Seconded by Mary C.

All present were in favor by a show of hands.

OFFICER REPORTS

Delegate - Jim K: Greetings, Area 35. It is overwhelming to think that it has been nearly a year since I began serving as your Area Delegate. It has been a true pleasure and has flown by. I assume that the next year will fly by as well which means there is a lot of work to do in a short period of time. As a follow up to the Fall Assembly, I attended a meeting with the other area officers in International Falls to discuss how we can best serve our primary purpose in the geographical area of District 14. There was great participation by those who attended and it was a truly inspiring experience to be a part of. Based on the overall feedback from the attending group, the local members decided to make an effort to revitalize the District 14 service structure. A follow up date is to be determined by the local groups to meet again and discuss the best way to move forward with elections. This year's WCRSC will be held in Rapid City, South Dakota March 1st through March 3rd. This is a wonderful event and a great opportunity to gain a better understanding of the background information related the GSC agenda items. It also allows a great opportunity to network with others throughout the West Central Region involved in serving the alcoholic who still suffers. I encourage all members who are able to attend this event to make every effort to do so. Most recent highlights from A.A.W.S. include information regarding the recent World Service Meeting that was held October 21-25 in Rye, New York. This meeting hosted 60 delegates from over 30 countries and international entities. The G.S.O. website has undergone some recent additions such as Box 459 and hyperlinked lists for service committee kits and resources for D.C.M.s and G.S.R.s. A recent policy was also finalized by A.A.W.S. on types of literature published by A.A.W.S. that do and do not require conference consideration. No information has come forward regarding a possible draft plan to look at merging of the Grapevine with AAWS. It has not been referenced in any AAWS Highlights or Board Weekend minutes at this point. As part of the next year's G.S.C., the conference will begin going through the process of taking its own inventory. A list of questions that will be covered at this first years conference are available and can hopefully be reviewed by groups and interested members. This information can be shared back with me via the Spring Assembly to assist in carrying the conscience of Area 35 to the G.S.C. I again want to thank you for this opportunity to serve Area 35 and look forward to seeing you all at the Area 35-36 Workshop in Walker next month.

Alternate Delegate - Michael (Jake) J: Wow what a fast year. It seems the older I get the faster that time goes by. I have enjoyed serving Area 35 and the people I meet on my journey. God is good. I still am not up to par on my health yet but we keep plugging away and trying different things. So I am sure I will continue to get better. I enjoyed the fall assembly in International Falls and thought that as an Area we strive to carry the message and improve on how we attempt to do it. Our inventory never seems to produce any big faults but it always pushes us to strive for the best. The workshop I attended in District 21 gave me another chance to share experience that I have gained from serving in Area 35. I am focusing on the upcoming Are 36 workshop and continue to encourage members to participate. I ran out of time for a Zonal Forum and will try for 3 this next year. I attended an informational meeting with the groups from District 14 with the other area officers and folks from District 8. Steve and I got to share a ride up and I think we enjoyed getting to know each other better. I am not sure what came out of the meeting but the enthusiastic people from District 14 that were there had the opportunity to share with each other and us their hopes and fears. I am sure that whatever their decision is it will be what is best for them It sure was nice to meet Jim from the Little Fork Group as this was the first I had heard from this group in my time of service. We also had great food as it was a potluck. I also had the opportunity to go up to Ely for their open meeting and listen to Antonette share her story. I enjoyed spending time with some past servants off District 8 and sharing sweets together.

Area Chair - Kelly D: Good morning everyone, it is good to be here today with all of you. It is hard to believe how fast this year has gone and we are in the month of December already. This year will be busy for all of us starting with the January Workshop, then our Committee Meeting in February when the Agenda Items come out for the 2013 General Service Conference, the WCRAASC in March and then our Spring Assembly in April. Get those calendars out and plan to attend these exciting upcoming service events! Just a few things I have been working on since our Fall Assembly. First I had the opportunity to visit Area 36 at their voting Assembly in October and introduced myself to their new incoming Chair Missy W., whom I will be working with on our next Joint Workshop on July 20th with them. Our location for the Workshop has been confirmed. Thank you Scott, DCM for District 13 for calling and reserving the space. It will be again at the Calvary Community Church, 1200 Roosevelt Road, St. Cloud from 12:30 – 5:00 pm. The fliers are posted on our web and the Agenda will follow once I meet with Missy and get it set up sometime soon after she rotates into the Chair position in January. When going over the evaluations from that last Workshop with them, it was mentioned that it was hard to hear without a sound system. I have been in contact with Brad, our Archivist and he has agreed to have a microphone set up for us there, thanks Brad! As you know one of the things that also came out of that Workshop was to form a statewide Corrections Committee in Minnesota. I met with Jeff, our Area 35 Corrections Chair to come up with some guidelines for that committee to follow. He in turn met with Mary, Area 36 Corrections Coordinator and got the work done. I sent that information to Lisa, current Area 36 Chair and we both agreed to go with it in 2013. Thanks to everyone for all the hard work that went into making this possible! I will leave it to Jeff, to report on the progress of getting this committee up and running. Bob, our Area 35 Webmaster was in contact with me to discuss putting a ad-hoc committee together on the Area 35 equipment. I set up a meeting with him in Brainerd and invited Jim, our Area 35 Delegate and his wife Sarah to join us. The purpose of this committee would be to 1) determine the equipment needs of the committee, 2) inventory the current equipment and software, 3) determine replacement upgrade schedules, 4) make recommendations for upgrades when positions rotate, 5) renew needs/requests for new equipment and make recommendations, and 6) include PA equipment. Bob is busy working on getting a committee together and I will leave it to him to report on the progress. I have been out visiting some District meetings the last few months and attended District 16 in Grand Rapids, District 7 in Brainerd, District 13 in St. Cloud and my home District 5 in Zimmerman. First of all I want to thank all of you serving for your commitment to be of service in northern Minnesota. I enjoy the time I was there and it was great to see firsthand all the work you are doing to carry the AA message. Second, I wanted to comment on the need there still is to get others involved in service. Although some Districts have open committee chairs, I was impressed on how they are still getting the work needed done BUT my question to all of you is, what can we do to get more individuals involved in service in 2013? Have you read Dennis B's article from Area 36 in this addition of our Northern Light? Thank you Dennis, something for all of us to consider doing going into 2013! As you know there was a motion made at the Fall Assembly "that Area 35 form a committee to look at our Area map with possibilities of redistricting and bring a plan of action back to the Area Action Committee Meeting in December." I emailed a flier out to the Area regarding this motion and on November 25th Jim, Steve, Jake and I made a road trip to International Falls. Mary, our Area 35 Secretary was the only Officer that was not able to attend due to a previous family commitment but was missed by all. Jim, will have a full report on this later under new business but I want to personally take the time to thank him, for his research and presentation on this motion. What a great opportunity we were given to bring some information to that Area and look at what our main focus needs to be and

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continue to be and that is to carry the message to the alcoholic that still suffers. I would like to thank JoAnn from International Falls also for her help in getting the fliers distributed to the groups in that area and getting approval to hold this meeting at the Alano Club there, I would not have been able to set this up without her help. A special thank you to all that was a part of this meeting, my hope is that we can move forward in a positive way and stay focused on what is truly important. The evaluations from the Fall Assembly inadvertently did not make this addition of Northern Light (not a big deal Jana) but will be in the next. I have some copies that I will send around if anyone would like to read them. I also did send them out in an email to all of the Area so hopefully you all received them. If you did not please let me know and I will forward them on to you. I am looking forward today to hearing from the Area Inventory Committee on their progress putting together our inventory that was done at the Fall Assembly. I am excited about looking at what we can do to make some positive changes to better serve you. Again thank you to everyone that was a part of making this inventory possible! Last I would like to wish you all a joyous holiday season and I look forward to our next year together in service. I am truly grateful to you all for the opportunity I have been given to be a part of this program. As always if there is anything I can do for any of you in anyway please let me know and thank you!

Secretary - Mary S: I've made my room reservation for the Area 35 Workshop in Walker. I plan to room with Rolene L, DCM Dist 8. I'm looking forward to learning more about AA and watching the Districts present. I'm learning a lot about Area Service and can't believe the first year is almost over. I am grateful for the opportunity to be in service work. Not only does this help me and my family, but also the still suffering Alcoholic. I just recently heard about a man who had been attending my home group who has been drinking since Thanksgiving and it's difficult to tell if he will be able to stop this time. His health is going downhill fast. The best help I can give him is to continue to do my service work and let him know I care, but this disease has taken down many good people. On the first Wednesday of November, Kelly D. came to Grand Rapids for the District 16 Meeting. She and I had supper at the Sawmill Inn where the Spring Assembly will be held. I gave her a tour and attended the District meeting with her. Once Again, thank you for allowing me to serve Area 35 as your secretary. If you want to be placed on the e-mail distribution list, hand me your email address.

Treasurer - Steve L: I attended the District 6 Workshop in Cambridge on 10/27/12 and thought everything went fine. It was a small gathering. We studied the preface to the service manual. I attended the special meeting in I-Falls on 11/25/12 about the redistricting of District 14 and thought the gathering was informative. After many views and concerns were discussed, it was determined that the best course of action was to try and relight District 14 and to help them become independently active. Help from the Area, District 8, and commitment from the active members in International Falls is needed to make this happen. The tax snafu is over (HOORAY!). The IRS sent me a letter stating the \$1992.90 due for penalty, late fees and interest was adjusted and reduced down to nothing owed (ZERO!). On the back table are the areas expenses, income and balance sheet for period 6. The balance sheet shows the Area's Year to Date expenses are \$ 25484.27 or 42% under budget. Our Group Contributions are also under budget by \$ 14,100.85 or 36%. Our Assets are staying flat; we have neither excessive 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 on January 1, 2013 so please use the new envelopes with the new correct treasurer's address or go to our web site and get my current address. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Treasurer.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS

Webmaster - Robert (Bob) B: I added all the district meetings to the area35 calendar for 2013. I am still working on District 8. I have backup software to replace our calendar software should the software we are using becomes outdated. I started looking at mapping software to see what it might take to map our meetings. I did district 7 by hand one meeting at a time. This works for a small number of meetings. I have used this map times. I found serenity in the pines in the fog by driving to the dot on the map on my iphone. I took a class in PHP and MYSQL. I wrote some demo code. I can take our FNV database, pull the records out, and move selected fields to a MYSQL database. I was able to get the address query a geodatabase and add the longitude and latitude to the records. Area41, Nebraska, is using their FNV database to seed their meeting locator and create maps. I have been in contact with area41 and they are willing to share their software. I should have a copy of their software in January. Our WEB site is centered around service work. The public is not divided into northern and southern Minnesota. Do we need and entry WEB pages for AA New Comers, Professionals, The general Public, Corrections, and others? Should we have a page to new comers that explains to the new comer how to find AA meetings in Northern Minnesota, how to contact and talk to someone in AA and direct them to aa.org for additional information? The same could be done for other professional in the public sector.

Archives - Antonette F: I attended the Assembly in International Falls. Again, another learning experience. The Discussions about AA as a whole and each District is invaluable information to know. I had the opportunity to attend a meeting in Ely. AA is alive and well up north. They expressed some interest in service involvement. One year down... one year to go. I have been asking groups for histories. District 12 - Longtimer Panel is January 12th, 2013 at the Duluth Alano Club. More will be revealed.

District 2 - Kim : We just updated our meeting list. Our last District meeting was on the 2nd Sunday of November. We got a new member to be our Secretary as the previous one resigned. We are looking for replacements on all our committees. We will not have the Roundup this year. It's going to be re-vamped and will let you know at a later date when it will be. Mark B passed away recently. It was sudden and unexpected. He was living in Grafton and will be missed by many.

District 12 - Servando M: Our District Meeting is the third Thursday of each month. Our location rotates so that we may involve more of our groups. We are currently about to start in Superior at the Serenity Club for 3 months. We currently have all chair positions filled and are starting to acquire alternates for each committee. We have PSM's currently serving on TV and Radio with literature, videos, and Grapevine subscriptions. We are looking to get some literature into the hospitals and possibly high schools. Our archives chair is setting up a long timers panel for January 12th at the Duluth Alano this event is in effort to preserve our past through our experiences should be a great time and all are invited. Duluth now has a YPAA committee who recently won the Bid to have the 2014 YPAA convention in Duluth. We are very proud of all they have done and look forward to this event. Thank you for this opportunity to work with such wonderful people.

Archivist - Brad I: Archivist report December 2012 Since the Fall Assembly I had the full display set up at the Saint Cloud Roundup. I also gave a multimedia tour of the archives. I did a joint display with Area 36 at Founders Day in Saint Louis Park. There were only 3 people this year that had the pre publication transcript confused with the first edition of the Big Book. There were 9 people convinced that half of the people that had stories in the first edition big Book died drunk. I had a very spirited conversation with a couple of individuals about the source of our primary purpose and about anonymity breaks. I am giving a multi-media presentation in Brainerd on the 15th of December. I did a minutes and records search for 2 Districts. I am sad to say that I could not provide them with much information due to not receiving the original minutes from the districts. All DCM's please ask your district secretary if I am included on the mailing list and I have a suggestion for districts. If every district officer saves a copy of the minutes, puts them on a flash drive, and gives them to the succeeding individual there will be multiple copies of minutes available in each district. I am continuing to inventory and create a searchable database of the Archives collection.

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This sometimes involves collating loose pages and cross referencing to ascertain correct dates. Another suggestion to districts is to include the month and year as the title of your minutes. I am also captioning a large amount of photographs of display items and the Archives repository to put on the web page.

Literature - Sean D: Greetings! The literature Action Committee met this morning with Districts 5, 13, and 14. These districts report literature needs are being met either by District Literature Chairs or by the Area Literature Chair. Sometime in the near future, online ordering of literature will be available. At that time, the order amount of \$500.00 will need to be met to qualify for free shipping. A thorough literature inventory is in process with the books being complete. Currently the Area has \$2,456.80 of books in stock. I have a goal of presenting a complete inventory in January. The Area Literature Chair has \$627.98 in the bank account. There were 4 orders made prior to my last order to AAWS. Thank You! This allowed me to have what was needed for the meeting today. Please let me know literature needs by January 2nd 2013 so I can have these orders complete and ready at the January Workshop on the 19th. In the Spotlight: P-15, Questions and Answers of Sponsorship. This pamphlet is a GREAT resource for answering a general question on “What is Sponsorship?” and sections for those seeking a sponsor or those wanting to be a sponsor and groups planning sponsoring activity. I appreciate the opportunity to be of service and hope the day exceeds all expectations.

District 13 - Scott B: District 13 has booked the area 35/36 workshop on July 20th 2013 at Calvary Community Church in St. Cloud. Fliers will be made available as soon as possible. Volunteers are needed to chair our beginners meetings held at the St. Cloud Alano Club at 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday of the month. Interested parties can contact Christine our treatment chair for more information. Christine also attended a Treatment workshop held in Virginia, MN last October. Treatment and Corrections are looking to add to their volunteer list for bringing in meetings to jails, Our House and Clara’s House.

District 5 - Heidi R: Greetings from District 5! District 5 has been working hard to get all of their commitments covered. Rita, the CPC chair, has created new meeting schedules, completed another 8 weeks of the probation orientation meeting, is making sure our libraries have Big Books, and has been getting literature out to local businesses. We still have a meeting in 2 treatment centers within the district. Our jail meetings are being covered. We are in the process of getting help from Area 36 for volunteers in the Sherburne County Jail. District 5 also has a new Treasurer, Dan. I welcome him back to the district and wish him luck. Our literature/ Grapevine chair, Paul, is continuing to keep literature on hand for groups to purchase. Or Archives chair, Jake, is recording old-timer's story from our district. At our last few district meetings, we have had four new GSR's in attendance. It has been great having new fresh faces and ideas to the district meeting. We registered four new AA groups and had one meeting disbanded from District 5. As a district, we have decided to do an inventory sometime in January. I want to thank Jake, the Archives Chair, for helping me get this set up and finding a person to chair the inventory. Finally at the district meeting we discussed requirements for volunteers putting on meetings in the jails, treatment centers, and probation orientation. We decided that volunteers should read the pamphlet "Speaking at Non-AA Meetings" and "Information on AA."

Treatment - Randy A: Not present - Report given by Mary Coy. Randy, our chair was unable to join us today. We had 7 Districts represented with 2 new chairs present: Tammy from Dist 12 and Barb from Dist 21. Welcome to both of you. Dist 5 - Jack has 2 facilities that he covers with the assistance from southern MN. He provides speakers and directories for both - Riverplace-3rd Thursday and New Beginnings - 4th Thursday. District 12 - Tammy has 3 major treatment centers in her district, Mash-ka-wisen, Miller Dwan, and Arrowhead Center on Problem Drinking as well as a large Detox facility. As she is just starting, she plans to assess services needed and go from there. Dist 7 - Dave has 5 treatment centers that his district covers; Focus-3-4 meetings per week, Teen Challenge - still a struggle to provide for them, Avalon, Adapt-an outpatient program, and Pinnacle Recovery Services. The district provides directories to all as well as information on their helpline and access to temporary contacts/12 Step work. District 1 - Irene has 1 center, Glenmore in Crookston. The district provides speakers via the groups on Saturdays. District 13 - Christine brings in speakers to Recovery Plus every Friday, plus Wednesday and Thursday for the women's meeting. She has 2 adolescent programs, Clara’s Home and Children's Home which are proving tough to fill as they are daytime requirements as well as having a tough time finding young members in AA willing to provide this service. There is some discussion about doing a treatment luncheon similar to the ones PI does but only for the treatment professionals. District 21 - Barb has 1 center to cover - Pine Manor in Nevis. As she is just starting this rotation, she hopes to have more information at a later date. District 16 - Mary. Our commitments to Northland Recovery Center are being fulfilled as follows: Adult inpatient - last Wed of the month an informational presentation, 2nd Tues of the month a speaker meeting for the adult inpatient and outpatient clients, 3rd Tues of the month and informational presentation (as needed) for the adult outpatient program. The NRC adolescent inpatient unit is covered the second Tuesday of the month alternating between a speaker and an informational presentation on the first Monday of the month... Our temporary contact program is available to all facilities but is used infrequently, maybe 2 times a month. any errors in this report, I apologize for in advance.

District 1 - Irene J: Hello to All!!! There really hasn’t been much going on in our district. We held our District Meeting on October 14th 2012 and we will be holding our next meeting December 9, 2012. Attendance at our district meeting is anywhere from 10 to 12 people attending. Some events that are coming up is the wild rice round-up at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahnommen, MN. Dates are January 11-13th. I will be attending the Area 35 Workshop in Walker on January 19-20th. Aksi District 1 will be planning our 31st Spring Fling that will be held on March 9th 2013 at the Fertile Community Center with registration starting at 1:00pm with two breakout sessions. Supper and end with an AA and Al-Anon Speaker.

District 7 - Neil F: Happy December everyone! District 7 meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month in Brainerd. Our meetings are from 7-8:30 pm at the First Congregational United Church. Our next meeting will be on December 20th. We had 3 visitors at our last meeting on November 15th and one new GSR. The District is remaining active even though several positions remain open, including Alt DCM, PI-CPC and Archives. We are active in Corrections and Treatment and have established good contacts in both areas. The District is considering combining PI with CPC and Literature with Grapevine. We believe we have a good candidate to fill the PI-CPC position and are excited about that as we begin planning for a CPC luncheon, likely to be held in May. On December 15th we are hosting an Archives Workshop from 6-9 pm. We are enthused to have Brad I, Area Archivist, lined up to do a presentation. This will be held at the Fort Ripley Town Hall south of Brainerd on Hwy 371. We have flyers here and would love to have you attend! We wish everyone a Joyous Holiday Season! Check out the District’s Website at AAcentral-lakes.org. Our meetings are mapped, special thanks to Bob for working on that!

Public Information - Robert (Butch) R: We met with CPC, 11 in attendance. Each District spoke about what they are doing or plan to do. It was good to hear that many are planning PI-CPC Luncheons. All understand it takes time and effort setting one up. We are planning a PI-CPC Workshop in the Future, More to follow after the Area Workshop.

District 3 - Jim S: Not present - report given by Sean D. Each meeting brings with the reading and discussion of a concept, by month, we average 14 groups participating. District 3 has a very active corrections chair adding a moth of meetings to Becker County Jail, men and women. The hotline is active and staffed. District 3 has an action plan in place to visit dark meetings.

District 6 - David A: We held our Service workshop on October 27th. We had two Officers and one Committee Chair of Area 35 in attendance as well as a few of our District Six members. Everyone I talked with after the event said that it was informative to them. I think that we would be well served to have more than one of these workshops each year. Maybe we could have one using the pamphlet P-16, “The A. A. Group” Where it all begins.” We have a new Literature Chair now and we are still looking to fill some of our other Chairs and Officer positions. When

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we have our December district meeting on the 20th some of us will bring some snacks as we have in the last few years and we have invited any and all of the members of our Groups to attend. Would like to see a full house and hey, have some fun. I hope everyone has a good holiday.

Group Records - Sandy H: I have been busy updating FNV and Northern Light mailing list. I have been in contact with District 15 and 18 trying to update their records. I received a flyer from Big Ole Roundup, which was inserted into the Northern Light this month. To have a flyer inserted in the Northern Light 600 flyers, are needed to be sent to either me, or Cold Spring Record. I also need a check for \$75 made out to Postmaster to help with the mailing cost of the Northern Light. If anyone has any questions please feel free to contact me.

Northern Light - Jana M: The deadline for Reports & Articles for the next Northern Light is January 24th. I emailed the 2013 Northern Light deadline dates for reports and articles to Bob our Webmaster to put on the web calendar. Also again, want to encourage anyone to submit an article. At the last inventory there were questions on the budget and what committees are doing with the money. The Northern Light is a good communication tool in showing the area exactly what each committees and officers are doing. DCM's if you could share with your GSR's that the Northern Light is a good tool of information for keeping their group informed on what is going on at the Area level.

District 21 - Dave G: We of District 21 are trying to overcome our musical chair conundrum. Missing is Alternate DCM and CPC Chair. We lose and gain and we will move on? At the Fall Assembly we were setting up a GSR Workshop. It did happen and there were 20 in attendance. I do want to Thank Jake and Jake for their participation and inspiration. We held a gratitude call up meeting and potluck Saturday, November 25th. There were 41 in attendance. Our next District meeting will be December 10th, 2012.

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., United Methodist Church, 1701 S.E. 8th Avenue, Grand Rapids, MN. On October 11th I met with the Executive Director of Grace House (A facility providing housing for the homeless). We discussed the needs of Grace House and what AA could do. I committed the District to stocking an AA literature display including District meeting directories. I was asked if the District would like to start AA meeting at the facility. I told them how AA meetings are started and that the District does not do that. I also told them that some of their facility restrictions may be in conflict with our Traditions, and there are AA meetings being held within a short walking distance for their guests. I have been informed that Rapids Counseling (At their new location 516 S. Pokegama Ave.) is willing to rent meeting space to additional AA groups. On November 5th the District Treatment Chair started a bi-monthly introduction to Alcoholics Anonymous at Rapids Counseling. On October 13th the District held the "More about Alcoholics Anonymous" workshop at Grace House. On October 20th I attended Area 35 Treatment Workshop in City of Virginia where I gave a presentation on "Singleness of Purpose" within Alcoholics Anonymous. Our next District meeting will be December 5th. Our District Grapevine and Literature committee chairs have resigned, so we are looking for people to fill those positions.

Corrections - Jeff E: Thank you for letting me serve as Corrections Chair for Area 35. I've been busy working with Mary M. from Area 36 on the joint corrections committee. I'm somewhat confused as to what all is necessary for approval by Area 35, but will have the specifics at the February Committee meeting in Aitkin. It is a very exciting time to be in Corrections. A lot is starting to happen both from the State DOC and AA in getting the word out. There will be more on this in Feb. Thanks to those who donated books for St Cloud. Keep the effort going to recruit more volunteers for 12th Step work in our jails and prisons.

District 8 - Rolene L: November 7th was 16 years sober for me. I am so grateful to be in service as DCM for District 8. It is a learning experience. District 8 has been going through a lot of elections. As of our November 7 District meeting our Alternate DCM resigned. We will be having elections in January. Being DCM I have taken care of our District Workshop in February and given that responsibility to our District Archives Chair, Pat M. This is an item that our Alternate DCM usually takes care of. I have also started a sheet for host group for next year of our District meeting. That was another item I had given our Alt. DCM. We will be having a District Inventory at our Feb. District meeting. I have asked past delegate Tom A from Waite Park if he would be our moderator. Thank You, Tom A. I attended the Falls Assembly in International Falls. The area inventory was a great experience. I also attended the meeting held in International Falls with our Area officers on November 25th. Our Delegate Jim K. will inform us in Area 35 of the group conscience of District 14 getting active. I plan on attending the Area Workshop in January. Our Alternate Delegate has asked District 8 to participate on a topic. I plan on sharing expenses with our Area Secretary Mary S. Our next District Meeting is December 6th in Biwabik. We have one year done in our rotation, time does fly. I am looking forward serving District 8 in 2013. It is learning and growing experience. And for that I am very grateful to be of service helping the Alcoholic that still suffers.

District 9 - John F: Report given by Diane R. We open our meeting with the Serenity Prayer. Someone presents a concept. PI-CPC has a committee. They are putting together a letter and literature to send to Doctors in our District. Treatment and Corrections Commitments are being fulfilled. We have discussed sending district chairs to the area committee meetings. This was sent back to groups to discuss. We have also discussed moving the District meetings to different locations to help get others groups involved. It was brought up that we have an open meeting. We close with the responsibility Statement. GSR Hibbing Downtown Group filling in for John F, DCM.

CPC - Roger R: Thank you for the Opportunity to serve Area 35 as your CPC Chair. I enjoyed working with you all at our recent Fall Assembly and am looking forward to our January Service Workshop. A CPC sub-committee met in St. Cloud to sort CPC Literature into packets for Clergy, Health Care and Corrections Professionals. At our CPC/PI Breakout session this morning: 10 committee members and Jon C. attended. We had a formal meeting agenda. CPC and PI Action Chair reported. Both District DCM and CPC Chairs reported on CPC Luncheon Planning and District's AA information to Professionals. I handed out sample CPC information packets for clergy, health care and corrections professionals. If your District did not or could not attend our meeting and you would like assistance on CPC materials, please contact me. We discussed Statewide Expos in Health and Human Services. Probation etc. if you know about one of these events, please contact me.

District 11 - Bill C: Our District Meeting is the First Tuesday of the month at the Methodist Church in Finlayson. At our last meeting we elected a new treasurer to replace our old treasurer who resigned. We also elected a CPC/PI chair and he is Doug N. We lost our former District Treasurer who served for many years. Judy T. died in a car accident. She was holding meetings in the jail at my first AA meeting. Group participation is 15 to 13 out of 26 groups. And Gary continues to see that Correction Commitments are met.

District 18 - Neil R: District 18 holds meetings on the First Tuesday of the Month at 6:30 pm in Long Prairie. We are continuing to discuss literature stand to help continue carrying the message at round robins. We have put together a committee to discuss what books to purchase and to put an order sheet together. We still have our CPC/PI chair open and our corrections chair has been so busy with work that he has been able to follow through with his responsibilities. Our Archives chair has stepped up and is willing to help with what he can for CPC/PI right now he is putting together a directory of all professionals in the district's community along with literature packets for each professional. Our literature chair has been willing to help with getting applications out to groups for willing members to help out with jail meetings. Continue to work with Sandy to get group information and District Chairs Position info corrected. Upcoming events in District are December 7th Holiday Potluck Speaker Meeting at Eagle Bend Group. The meal is at 6:00 pm, Speaker at 7:00. Motley will have their annual Round Robin sometime in February. Verndale will be having a round robin in March. Anyway Treatment Center in Long Prairie is asking Long Prairie group if they would like to get together for Holiday Party /AA Speaker meeting on December 18th. Clarissa United Methodist has a new Pastor. He was part of getting the Recovery Service in Deerwood going. And now he would like to start one in District 18. We have been getting a lot of input.

Continued on next page

Grapevine - Carey A: All of the 2013 Grapevine Calendars are sold thanks to my Assistant's who helped me sell them today. We have forms available to subscribe to the Grapevine, Guidelines how to contribute art or articles to the Grapevine. Also the quote of the day can be placed on your computer if you download and sign up for the Quote of the Day. The pocket calendars are all sold out. Thanks to all of you who purchased them. 5 People attended the Committee meeting today. I am working on a Grapevine Literature Inventory and hope to have that completed by the January Workshop. The Grapevine belongs to the fellowship. It is entirely supported by the subscriptions that we purchase. So, everyone should purchase a subscription sooner rather than later.

District 4 - Jim T - No report submitted

District 15 - Pete B: We're working on updating all contacts and meeting times in our Districts. We will be going to some of the meetings that we don't have contact with right now. We got enough volunteers to help present an AA workshop in January. We will be meeting in early December to form ideas to present. We are working on the Stearns county Round-up, getting speakers together. Date is March 23rd at Landing in St. Anna. Ice Cream served between speakers. We received a letter from Recovery Plus. Volunteers needed to put meetings on at Passages Friday Afternoons and Monday Nights. Have some groups responding to that. Lake Henry open meeting is 6th of December at 8:30. St. Margaret Church will also have a holiday party on January 5th at Hillcrest in Payneville - 5:30.

OLD BUSINESS

Financial Oversight Committee Report: The financial oversight committee met this morning to review the period 6 Area financial reports and bank statements. After a thorough, but painless review, the committee is happy to report the Area's books are in good standing, and all financial reports submitted to date are accurate and complete. Thus, the ending balance on the balance sheet of \$25,609.10 is the accurate amount of assets possessed by Area 35. We continue to commend Steve on his dedication, hard work, and diligence. He does a wonderful job. Additionally, the committee discussed our desire to fulfill our responsibility to ensure the accuracy of the area's finances in the most cost effective manner possible. The YTD cost of the financial review committee totals \$889.55. The majority of these costs were incurred for members attending the Area Assemblies. The committee decided to exercise the right of decision, in accordance with the Area financial policy, and reduce the frequency of our meetings from six per year to four per year. Of course, future committees will be free to revise this as they see fit. At this time, the committee feels we can adequately fulfill our responsibility to the area by limiting our meetings to the four Area committee meetings (ACMs) each year: Feb., June, Aug., and Dec. It is our hope that meeting at the four ACMs will continue to ensure the treasurer has enough support and also provide adequate oversight of the Area's finances while reducing the costs to the Area (approximately equal to the hotel and meal costs for two additional members to attend both assemblies). It would also allow the Treasurer and Area Chair to focus on matters relating to the Assembly without worrying about fitting in another meeting. Now all that is left is for Steve to solve the case of the curious papal contribution.

Fall Assembly 2012 Report: The space was great. Kelly had tables at the Assembly in International Falls - feedback is very important to make the Assembly's more comfortable. Kelly chose the Falls for the Fall Assembly because it had gone dark, and we want to rotate the assemblies to all parts of the Area 35.

January Workshop: Jake has contacted the Districts that will be presenting a topic. Districts presenting will be Districts 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 15, 16 & 18. All the Districts that were contacted by Jake have accepted to present a topic. This Workshop will be a good one, so please come. The charge will be \$10.00 Registration Fee because the Workshops are self supporting.

NEW BUSINESS

WRAASRAC: Jim reviewed the West Central Regional Conference. First of all the General Conference Assembly Items cannot be handed out any sooner than they have been in the past. They will be sent out as soon as possible. Contact Jim if you want a paper copy or a CD for your District. Come to the February Committee Meeting which is when the Conference Items will be handed out at that time. Check your e-mails often to get emails from Jim. The Conference is in Rapid City, South Dakota. Make your room reservations. How many Officers from the Area should go to the West Central General Service Conference? If Area Officers and Chairs do go to the Conference than the Officers and Chairs will be available to provide a report back to the Area. We'll do a better job of that this year. The Officers and Chairs sit in on Breakout sessions and then become the expert for the Spring Assembly Breakouts. Contact Jim K. if you have any questions or comments. The officers are available to come to your District to go over the Background information with the Districts. Feel free to ask your Officers to come.

Conference Agenda Items: These will be handed out at the February Committee Meeting. Hard copies VS Compact Discs. If we hand out the CD's then the Districts can make the copies VS the Area making the copies. Jim would like feedback from the DCM's if they prefer the Hard copy vs the CD's. The DCM can make a hard copy from the CD. Making a copy of the CD costs approximately \$60.00 - \$80.00. There has never been a formal action taken in the Actions Booklet stating whether to make a hard copy or a CD. So, please let Jim Know what you want before you leave today. Jim will also send out an e-mail in January so he can hand out the CD's or hard copies requested at the February 24th Committee Meeting.

GSR Ride and Room Sharing: I was asked if there was a way to have ride and/or room sharing on the WEB. Anonymity and Bulletin boards on the WEB just don't match. What I can do is match requests to share rooms or rides. I'll need some contact information. When I have multiple ride or room sharing requests I will share that information. After discussion, the committee agreed. Ride and Room connections will be trialed in 2013. There is a ride and room sharing icon on the Area35 calendar in the event description.

Area 35 Projector and Screen: Bob B.'s proposal to Area 35 Committee

Projector

- I was asked if the area could get a projector
- I'd bring the idea to the committee
- Projector would be used for Power point presentations (not High Def Video)
- Price ranges are from \$300 to over \$1700.
- Prices
 1. Epson EX5210 \$469 at Sam's Club 3 year \$40
 2. ViewSonic PDJ5123 \$328 and Sam's 3 year \$40, 299 Amazon
 3. ViewSonic PDJ5133 \$349 Amazon
- Features
 1. All up to 30ft from screen
 2. Up to 300 in diagonal in projection size

Screen

- 136 inch 96 \$161
- 99 inch 70 x 70 \$96

Continued on next page

· 71 inch 50 x 50 \$73

Proposal

- ViewSonic PDJ5133 \$349 Amazon (Both SVGA and HDMI)
- 99 inch 70 x 70 \$96 (Folded up this is 6 foot)
- Cable VGA and HDMI cables ~ \$20
- Not to exceed \$500.00

Piece of mind with one of the best warranties in the business

Backed by our 20+ year reputation for quality and reliability, ViewSonic offers one of the industry's best overall projector warranty with 3-year limited parts, 1-year lamp and first year free Express Exchange® service. Don't be fooled by seemingly longer warranties out there in the market that exclude the more vulnerable systems and moving parts.

The proposal passed- 21 in favor 4 against.

AA Meeting Locator Ad Hoc Committee Report: The purpose of this locator is to publish all AA meetings in and near Minnesota. The primary focus is for newcomers (beginners, still active alcoholics, etc.) to find meetings. Good luck. This AA meeting locator is a joint effort of the Northern & Southern Minnesota area assemblies. AA Meeting Locator is owned by a private company. The private company is using AAmeetinglocator for their self promotion. (linkedin) The private company is not using AAmeetinglocator for their other AA WEB site maps. Area35 has no direct input to this company to get AA Meeting Locator fixed. We have to go through area36. On July 27th AAmeetingLocator was demonstrated at our area35 & area36 joint workshop. A list of updates to AAmeetinglocator was identified. The AAmeetinglocator Ad-hoc committee was re-activated. To date the Ad-hoc has not met. Area35 is available to meet. To date there have been not updates to AAmeetingLocator. As a committee do we think it time to go back to our groups and see if they want to continue supporting AAmeetingLocator.

Proposal

Go back to our groups and get their conscience. At our Spring Assembly ask the Assembly if they are willing to continue support for AAmeetingLocator.

Plan: Continue to support the ad-hoc area35/area36 AA meeting locator committee. Our DCM will discuss AA meeting locator with their groups. At our Spring Assembly in April, I will ask the assembly if they want to continue support the web site aameetinglocator.org in the condition that it is in today. Should the site be taken down until we have a working locator?

Area 35 Inventory Committee Report: Heidi reported that the committee has a list made up which she will hand over to Kelly who will send it out to the Area Officers. The Officer's will write comments on it and how to proceed with the inventory. One of the topics was on Communication... an example would be more consistency of past officer's training the new officers. Kelly plans to take the topics and place them on the agenda to discuss and address each item in 2013. When Kelly forwards these to the Districts, then the Districts can discuss and review as well. The Area Officers can add information such as background information if it's already being done and how it's presently being done already. Some the items might not need any further discussion. People might not know that the position descriptions are on the Area Webpage and some of the comments might just need some education or a suggestion as to where to look for the answers. If there are some glaring deficiencies - the Districts and Area will discuss those in the future.

Area 35 Committee Report on Possibilities of Redistricting: Jim, Steve, Kelly and Jake met with the Folks in International Falls, District 14. Mary was unable to attend due to family commitments. This was a response to a motion made at the Fall Assembly. What are the things that the Officers and Area 35 can do to assist District 14 to best carry the message in the remote area of Minnesota. There was a great deal of sharing that took place. At the conclusion of the sharing session there was a general consensus to revitalize District 14. The Area Officers want to assist District 14 as much as possible. District 14 is going to try to revitalize themselves. There is work to be done in District 14. They had concerns about moving slowly and not going too fast. Jim hopes to bring more information to the January Workshop.

Heidi, DCM Dist 5 asked if there was any discussion about the Area 35 as a whole as there are other dark districts and there are Districts with many meetings. Heidi was concerned about more Districts than Dist 17 and Dist 14.. Jake suggested that people come to the January Workshop because it will address the fact of large and small districts and how an Area can best meet the needs of all AA groups in Northern Minnesota. Jim suggested that people look at the AA Service Manual about how Districts are created and supported. Jim K. stated that we are not looking at re-drawing any district lines at this point in time in Area 35 as a whole.

Calendar of Events: Jana M.

January 19th and 20th - Area 35 January Workshop, Chase on the Lake, Walker, MN

February 24, 2013, Area 35 Committee Meeting, Aitkin, MN

March 1-3, 2013, WRAASC, Rapid City, South Dakota

April 6 & 7th, 2013, Area 35 Spring Assembly, Sawmill Inn, Grand Rapids, MN

October 5 & 6th, 2013, Area 35 Fall Assembly, Detroit Lakes, MN

April 5 & 6, 2014, Area 35 Spring Assembly, Holiday Inn, Duluth, MN

October 4 & 5th, 2014, Area 35 Fall Assembly, Sawmill Inn, Grand Rapids, MN

January 12th, 2013, Trinity Lutheran Church, Cook, MN -Sunday Night Big Book Open Mtng.

Closed the Meeting with the Lord's Prayer

2013 – AREA 35 SCHEDULE

You can find out more about events on area35.org

Area Committee Meeting - Sunday, Feb. 24th - 9:00 am
Aitkin Alano Club
322 1st. Avenue N.E.
Aitkin, MN

Area 35 Spring Assembly - April 6th & 7th, 2013
Sawmill Inn
2301 Pokegama Ave
Grand Rapids, MN
218-326-8501

Area Committee Meeting - Sunday, Jun. 3rd - 9:00 am
Aitkin Alano Club
322 1st. Avenue N.E.
Aitkin, MN

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

Area 35 Fall Assembly - October 5th & 6th 2013
Holiday Inn
1155 Hwy 10 E.
Detroit Lakes, MN

Area Committee Meeting - Sunday, Dec. 1st - 9:00 am
Aitkin Alano Club
322 1st. Avenue N.E.
Aitkin, 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

January 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		New Year's 1 Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	M.L. King Jr. 21 Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		U.S. Federal Holidays are Red

February 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	Valentine's 14 Day	15	16
17	Presidents 18 Day	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		U.S. Federal Holidays are Red

Upcoming Events in Areas 35 & 36

Note: Area 35 events take precedence!

District 8 Workshop - Sacrifice-Unity-Survival
February 23rd 12:00pm to 5:00pm
Holy Spirit Catholic Church - Social Hall
306 2nd St. South
Virginia, MN
Please bring some goodies to share

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

31st Annual Spring Fling
Saturday - March 9th
Community Center
101 S. Mill Street (aka Hwy 32)
Fertile, MN

34th Annual Winter Rap-Up
March 15,16 & 17, 2013
Coats Plaza Hotel
502 Chestnut St.
Virginia, MN
218-749-1000 or 800-777-4699

District 15 Roundup
March 23rd - 5:30pm
Held at The Landing
18527 County Road 154
Avon, MN

NORTHERN LIGHT PRIMARY PURPOSE:

The *Northern Light* (N.L.), is a general service newsletter that serves Area 35 to facilitate bilateral communication between the groups, districts, Area and G.S.O. levels in the Northern Minnesota area. Its purpose is to:

- Publish an informative and attractive newsletter to the Area in a timely fashion.
- Encourage District reports and be available to work with Districts on communications. One or more of the N.L. Committee should try to attend area events to report on what’s happening in their areas. If they are unable to attend, encourage local members to write short articles about events and happenings to be published in the *N.L.*
- Provide encouragement for writing articles, particularly to D.C.M.s and Area Action Committee Chairs. This should include the strong encouragement to submit their reports for each issue, if no report is submitted it will be stated, example “Northern Light Report - NOT GIVEN” this is currently being done in the Southern Minnesota Area newsletter.
- Keep informed of activities and issues going on within Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. The N.L. Committee could subscribe the *Grapevine* or other pertinent A.A. news sources.
- Gather useful service information to publish from sources within the Area, Region and A.A. as a whole. Obtain, read and use other Area newsletters.
- Listen to comments from the Area on the content of the *N.L.*

EDITORIAL POSITION & N.L. COMMITTEE:

Editor - 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.

<div> <div>9:00 A.M. Action Chair Committee Meetings</div> <div>10:30 A.M. Area Committee Meeting</div> <div>Call to Order Open With the Serenity Prayer</div> <div>Recognize Past Delegates</div> <div>Add to Agenda</div> <div>Approve December Committee Minutes</div> </div> <div> <div>OFFICER REPORTS</div> <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> <div> <div>COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS</div> <div> <div>ARCHIVIST – B.</div> <div>LITERATURE – S.</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 – Bill C.</div> <div>District 18 – Neil R.</div> <div>District 14 – Deb A.</div> <div>GRAPEVINE – Carey A.</div> <div>District 4 – Jim T.</div> <div>District 15 – Pete B.</div> </div> </div> </div>	<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>12:00 P.M. Lunch</div> <div>12:45 P.M. Reconvene</div> <div> <div>OLD BUSINESS</div> <div> <div>Financial Oversight Committee Report</div> <div>January Workshop</div> <div>WCRAASC</div> <div>Area 35 Projector and Screen Update</div> <div>Area 35 Equipment Adhoc Committee Report</div> <div>AA Meeting Locator Adhoc Committee Report</div> <div>Statewide Corrections Committee Report</div> </div> <div> <div>NEW BUSINESS</div> <div> <div>Area 35/36 Workshop Agenda</div> <div>Delegate Resume</div> <div>Conference Agenda Items</div> <div>Area 35 Inventory</div> <div>Calendar of Events</div> <div>Adjourn</div> </div> </div> </div> </div>
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