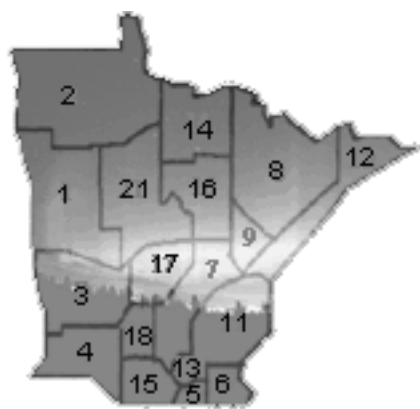


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Deadline for the next
Northern Light is
January 25th, 2014

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 2013

AREA OFFICERS

DELEGATE

JIM K.
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ALTERNATE DELEGATE

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Alt_delegate@area35.org

AREA CHAIR

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TREASURER

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SECRETARY

MARY S.
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cpc@area35.org

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treatment@area35.org

WEBMASTER

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webmaster@area35.org

GROUP RECORDS

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grouprecords@area35.org

NORTHERN LIGHT

JANA M.
northernlight@area35.org

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(D.C.M.s)

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dcm1@area35.org

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DISTRICT 4

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GENE V.
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DISTRICT 18

NEIL R.
dcm18@area35.org

DISTRICT 21

DAVE G.
dcm21@area35.org

DISTRICT 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!

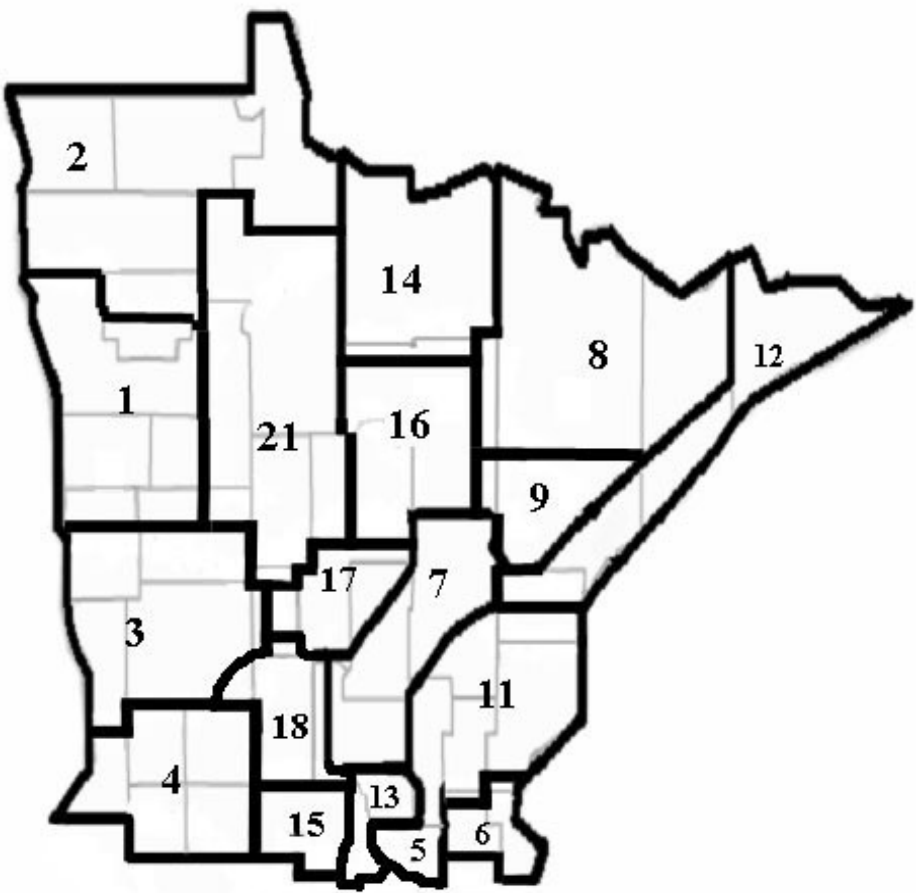
OUR PAST DELEGATES

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

* 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 14
2st Tuesday of Month, 5:30 Committee Meeting
6:00 p.m. District Meeting
Alano Club
410 5th Ave
International Falls, MN 56649

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

District 17
Not currently active or unknown

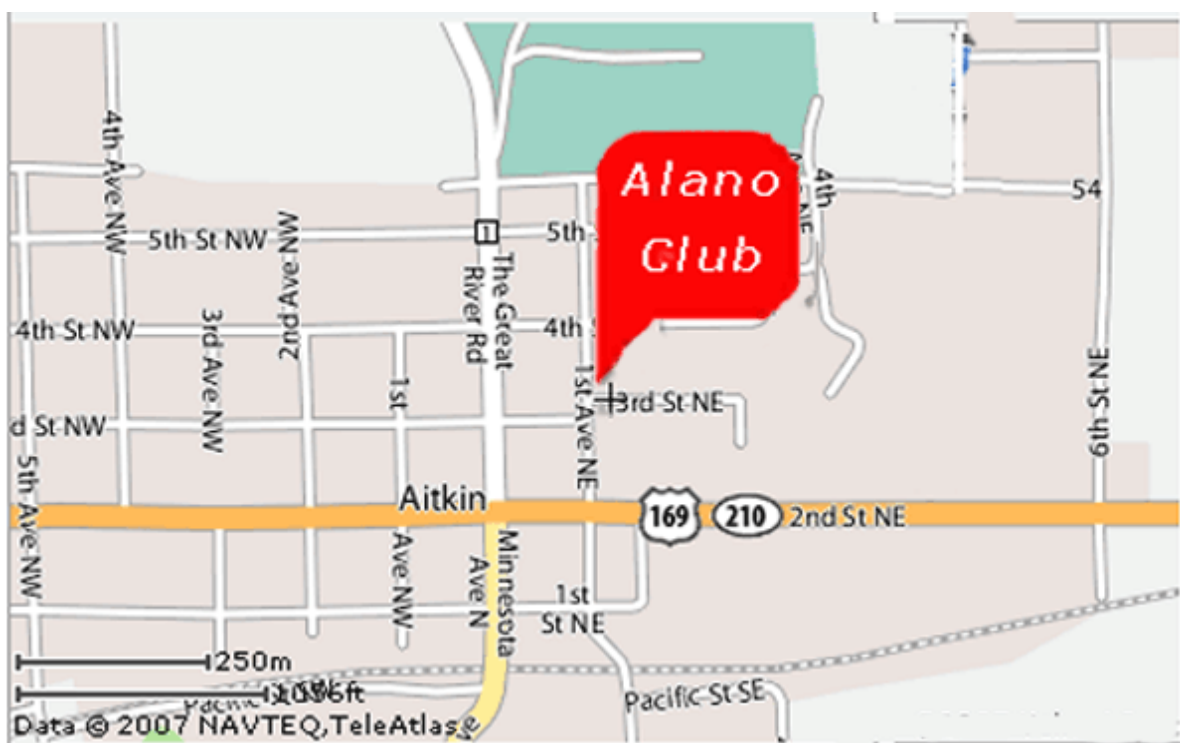
Inclement Weather Procedure For Area 35 Events

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,

It is hard to believe that this will be my final NL report written as an Area 35 Trusted Servant. I cannot adequately express the thankfulness that I have that you have given me this opportunity to serve. More importantly, thank you for all the work that each of you are doing in your home groups and districts to make sure that the message of AA is made available to those who need it.

I want to thank the area for allowing me to attend the Fall Assembly in Detroit Lakes. It was wonderful to see many new faces there and it is always a joy to be a part of new officer elections. I want to personally thank all those that who were willing to stand for a position and serve the area. I will be meeting with Jake in the next month or so to go over delegate duties and responsibilities to assist him in his new role.

The Fall Assembly also provided a venue to discuss current shipping and handling charges and how these are affecting the groups in Northern MN. The body agreed to have me send a letter the General Service Office expressing our concern with the current policy. A rough draft letter has been sent out to DCM's and Area Chairs for editing and to be discussed within districts. Once the review is complete, I will be forwarding the lettering on to the GSO.

I was able to attend the District 8,9,14, and 16 Workshop held in Virginia on October 26th. This was a wonderful joint effort by a number of districts to work together in looking at how we carry the message of AA. Scott J. and Jerry S. both did a wonderful job of moderating the workshop. This workshop also allowed the area officers to give a little bit of information on the work that we do inside the area and complete our final Zonal Forum.

Finally, I just want to thank all of the Area Officers, Area Chairs, DCM's and GSR's that I have been able to serve with this rotation. As Dr. Bob stated, "When reduced to the last our work here is has to do with love and service..." Thanks for allowing me to experience both.

Yours in Service,

Jim K.
Area 35 Delegate

ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT

Its that time of the year. The last Northern Light Report and coming to the end of Rotation as your Alternate Delegate. Every position has been an awesome experience. I have continued to learn that the most important thing we can do in AA is try to follow Spiritual Principals. They are what lead us to do the right thing. Especially in carrying the message to those who still suffer. We should never allow menial distractions to take us from our Primary purpose.

As your alternate delegate I was pleased to have a mostly healthy 2 years. Being supportive of our delegate and listening to our areas conscience as he did. Serving the groups of Area 35 is an awesome thing. Thank you for your support at the assembly and I hope to be follow in our delegate and past delegates ways. I will do the best I can as your upcoming Panel 64 Delegate. Thank you.

The assembly went great as we were able to get done with our work and reports Saturday and have Sunday morning for the elections. Thanks Kelly, just as your getting good at this Chairperson) your moving on to Alternate Delegate, congratulations. I would like to Congratulate Sarah (Area Chair), Randy (Area treasurer) and Roger (Area Secretary) for being elected to serve. It was so nice to see so many willing and able members stand for positions. Thanks Bob for being willing to share your knowledge and staying with us in Area Service. It really makes you feel that our area is getting more cohesive. I hope all members of AA in Area 35 remember that this is your Area and your full participation is needed to help us grow in carrying the message.

October proved to be a busy month for me. Besides working with Sponsee's, I had the privilege of speaking in a treatment facility, speaking at The North East Regional Correctional facility, attending the Open Meeting in Palo (always a good time) and traveling to Wright Thursday meeting to listen to my wife speak and share in fellowship with their group (another good meal). Sometimes life just be busy like that. Then I got the opportunity to attend the joint workshop put on by Districts 8, 9, 14 and 16. Scott and Jerry did a good job of leading and sharing on the topics. District 14 had a great turnout, it seems like they are here to stay. The participation of new GSR's was low but those that showed learned plenty about service. We had a short Zonal Forum at the end where we shared some experience over the last 2 years. I was sorry I had to leave and miss Jim's message but I heard he did a great job.

(Alternate Delegates report continued)

I know that at the end and beginning of each rotation there is much thoughts of things like, “did I do the best job I could of” and will I be capable in my new position” only God knows. Lets finish this year with thankfulness for Gods blessings on the drunks in Area 35.

Yours in Love and Service,

Mike “Jake” J.
Area 35 Alternate Delegate

AREA CHAIR’S REPORT

Greetings Area 35,

It is hard to believe that I am writing my last report as your Area 35 Chair. It amazes me how fast time flies by, where have the last two years gone? As I reflect on my time with you, I recall the feelings I had when I was first given this opportunity to be of service. Fear set in and I thought “how am I ever going to fulfill this huge commitment?” It has only been through the grace of God, a great sponsor and of course so many of you that serve Alcoholics Anonymous in one way or another that have helped me along this journey. The position at times for me was very challenging and sometimes overwhelming but it taught me some great life lessons that have proven to be great assets to my personal recovery. Growth is the one word that comes to mind for me when I think of the great experiences and challenges I faced over this rotation as your Chair. If you want growth in your own personal recovery, than service is a great place to find it! I want to thank each and every one of you in Area 35 for your confidence in me to serve as your Area Chair. My only hope is that I was able to fulfill the commitment and what was expected of me to all of you. And with the holiday season of gratitude and joy upon us, I know that I am truly grateful for the life I have been given in Alcoholics Anonymous along with the continuous gift of service you have given me also. I look forward to many new adventures with all of you as your Alternate Delegate in 2014-2015. Thank you for your support and confidence in me to fulfill that position!

In love and service,

Kelly D.
Area 35 Chair

FALL ASSEMBLY 2013 EVALUATIONS HOLIDAY INN, DETROIT LAKES

TOTAL ATTENDANCE - 154 TOTAL RESPONSES – 23

DCM/ALT DCM (4 total)

How did you like the Assembly?

Very well run. First Assembly I have been to where we got through Saturday agenda on Saturday.

Good.

Good.

The location and motel was very good. Saturday’s business went timely.

How can we better meet your needs?

I thought it went very well. Elections took a long time to get through. Maybe to speed it up we can have nominations put in a box by the end of night.

No

Keep doing what works.

Other comments or suggestions:

Need to do some presentations on Responsibility Statement. I’ve noticed a lack of following pledge in my District.

None

Better way to do coffee.

GSR’S (total 13)

How did you like the Assembly?

Great job

Really enjoyed it. I feel inspired to continue to be involved with this wonderful mission. I have so much to take back to my group and District.

Fellowship was great.

Wonderful, well organized, good coffee, enough room, flowed well.

Great time

(Evaluations continued)

Loved the speed of going through all the agenda items. Enjoyed the Roberts Rule Presentation, it helps.

Overall real good. Maybe because I have been to a few, I'm catching on better..lol

Lots of good stuff, education.

The agenda items moved along very well. : -) Great presentation on aameetinglocator. I really appreciate the power point visual and the interactive map. This was very helpful for understanding the tool.

Good. Fairly well run, moved along, not excessive “fluff.” :-)

Great

Very good! Kept on topic and brought up several (?word) points.

Great facility. Lots of dinning choices and another hotel choice very near by.

How can we better meet your needs?

You were well organized, like you have done it before! \$5.00 unlimited coffee per day.

Shorter Saturday's. I believe we vote on whatever will end the day when we are tired.

Can't think of anything.

Try to keep the cost of coffee down.

Ask for issues/agenda items to be submitted in advance via email. Perhaps we could publish the GSR/DCM reports in the Northern Light.

Cheaper coffee, snacks available.

Food like sweet rolls in the morning would go over well with me and might even be a good fundraiser.

The facilities were great. We ended up changing rooms because of the loud band. This is not part of the Assembly/ Area responsibilities, but the hotel could notify people to not be in these rooms. The GSR Sharing Session — incorporate questions into GSR Orientation/January Workshop. Sometimes questions arise w/o answers from GSR's. These can be forwarded to ask it basket or something???

I invite host (in the use of the Holiday Inn) to have more folks available, especially in their restaurant, when we are here. We had dinner reservations, food was served 80 minutes after we sat down and we missed part of the evening activities.

Other comments or suggestions:

My first time here. I am looking forward to the Spring!

Thank you!

The info for the GSR (at the start) was a little confusing and long winded. Webmaster was good.

Things have too much thinking and dillydally in it.

Thanks.

Great job! Way to go on another successful Assembly.

Thank you for your service.

Very fun!

A list of place to eat dinner (local groups could pretty easily provide this I think) in close proximity with phone numbers and remind us a couple of times earlier in the day on Saturday.

(We spent 45 minutes driving from place to place... heard same story from several others)

Parliamentary Procedure was a great idea. Thanks

OTHER (total 6)

How did you like the Assembly?

Good Assembly. Thanks for your service.

Awesome.

Outstanding good job!

Everything about it was good.

It was truly a pleasure and as always a great get together and learning experience. It went really well. Nice to not have to be dealing with issues at midnight on Saturday. Slept like a log, great beds.

How can we better meet your needs?

Nothing,

Maybe have literature on procedure “Roberts Rules of Order” on the registration table along with fliers and treasures reports, or on the tables with the evaluation sheets.

Find a different place. The food service here is the worst. Took an hour to get breakfast Saturday morning and Saturday night we waited over an hour to get dinner and still were not served before we (?word) to leave and we (?word) ordered burgers and fries.

Other comments or suggestions:

May we schedule Assemblies on weekends that are not raining. Maybe hotel can provide wait staff to meet our meal time needs.

Always good

SECRETARY’S REPORT

The month of October has gone so fast, and here it is the last day already. Since we met for our Area 35 Fall Assembly on October 5th and 6th I worked hard on getting the minutes typed and sent before the end of the month. It says in the Secretary guidelines that the Secretary has 6 weeks to complete and e-mail out the minutes, and I got it done. When I typed the minutes for the Fall Assembly I re-lived the Assembly all over again. I enjoyed all the information that was exchanged and being present for the election of Officers for our next rotation. I believe it when people say that in AA you can be as busy as you want to be. There is always a committee to participate in, a workshop to attend and many other jobs to do to keep this organization going in our Area.

I also attended a Service Workshop in Virginia on Saturday, October 26 where the Officer's presented a short 1 hour Forum for those present. That concluded our 4th Forum in our 2 year rotation.

My husband was in an accident while riding his bicycle on Friday, October 18th and was seriously injured but is on the mend as I speak. He's lucky to be alive and I'd like to send a gentle reminder to wear your bike helmet when riding a bicycle because he would not be alive today if he had not been wearing his helmet. Thank you to all who shared your thoughts and concerns to me the past couple weeks.

Take care and see you in December at the Area 35 Committee Meeting.

Mary S.
Area 35 Secretary

TREASURER’S REPORT

Howdy and Seasons Greeting to everyone,

I want to thank all of you for electing me and trusting me to serve these past two years as your Area Treasurer. It's been fun getting to know all of you along with getting an insight on all the groups in our Area.

Now, for the numbers. Total contributions for the year were \$23,257.71. Total expenses for the year were \$23,792.26 (a difference of \$534.55). Our checking account balance is \$19,669.29. Our savings account balance is \$6,035.31. Our Grapevine account balance is \$1,022.86. Our Northern Light mailer account balance is \$291.97.

Our new Area Treasurer is Randy A. I am confident he will continue to do a great job in service to our Area.

Humbly in Service,

Steve L.
Area 35 Treasurer

P.S. Now that I have some experience as a treasurer, my home group has decided to trust me to take care of their money.

Thank You Again

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WEBMASTER

WEB:

We are in the final 2 months of this rotation. Our entire WEB site has had a face lift and an upgrade to calendar software. By the end of the year our meeting lists on our WEB site will use our FNV database. This will eliminate the double record keeping and the confusion trying to keep two databases in sync. The automatic meeting updates and our new calendar will free up our webmasters time. More effort could be spent on improving the services offered on our WEB site.

For those that like statics:

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2013	1,538	2,288	10,681	145,498	1.58 GB
Feb 2013	1,483	2,170	9,238	112,151	1.23 GB
Mar 2013	1,637	2,600	14,470	130,663	1.55 GB
Apr 2013	1,719	2,697	14,731	136,643	1.73 GB
May 2013	1,668	2,580	12,110	120,792	1.38 GB
Jun 2013	1,670	2,786	12,924	125,991	1.47 GB
Jul 2013	2,067	3,137	13,938	140,657	1.74 GB
Aug 2013	2,078	3,253	15,532	153,161	1.73 GB
Sep 2013	1,959	3,227	10,925	125,882	1.85 GB
Oct 2013	2,068	3,296	9,280	129,034	1.54 GB
Nov 2013	9	9	17	291	2.18 MB
Total	17,896	28,043	123,846	1,320,763	15.80 GB

Our highest viewed pages are our meetings followed by our calendar.

AmeetingLocator Ad-Hoc Committee:

The Ad-hoc committee has completed its work and is no longer meeting. A temporary Technology WEB position has been created for the 2014-2015 rotation. This position will be responsible for updating and maintaining aaMeetingLocator.org and aaminnesota.org WEB site. See Area 35 Alcoholics Anonymous Trusted Servant Guidelines in this issue on our Northern Light.

WEB TECHNOLOGY

Statics from the PC based WEB site

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Band-width
Jan 2013	0	0	0	0	0
Feb 2013	0	0	0	0	0
Mar 2013	12	53	1,978	4,152	15.54 MB
Apr 2013	33	41	364	1,197	19.14 MB
May 2013	49	107	3,207	44,167	63.20 MB
Jun 2013	71	104	276	1,324	23.42 MB
Jul 2013	145	238	3,807	34,130	213.28 MB
Aug 2013	313	480	3,708	22,118	281.22 MB
Sep 2013	682	918	4,112	26,988	524.48 MB
Oct 2013	2,636	3,755	14,654	103,842	2.05 GB
Nov 2013	5	5	14	83	2.19 MB
Total	3,946	5,701	32,120	238,001	3.16 GB

(Webmaster report continued)

Statics from the Mobile based WEB site

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Band-width
Jan 2013	0	0	0	0	0
Feb 2013	0	0	0	0	0
Mar 2013	0	0	0	0	0
Apr 2013	0	0	0	0	0
May 2013	0	0	0	0	0
Jun 2013	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 2013	3	8	90	175	1.29 MB
Aug 2013	109	163	2,147	4,089	36.26 MB
Sep 2013	340	384	1,434	2,491	67.67 MB
Oct 2013	1,674	2,097	7,584	13,009	400.22 MB
Nov 2013	3	3	3	5	12.76 KB
Total	2,129	2,655	11,258	19,769	505.45 MB

Let’s look at the numbers across our WEB site for October. Our meeting locator PC and Mobile sites have 2 times the number of visitors as our area35 web site. October is our first month on the new website. The number of visitors to the site, tell us that we are providing a service to people looking for AA meetings in Minnesota.

Site (October)	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
area35.org	2,068	3,296	9,280	129,034	1.54 GB
aaMeetingLocator.org	2,636	3,755	14,654	103,842	2.05 GB
Mobile locator site	1,674	2,097	7,584	13,009	400.22 MB
Both PC and Mobile sites	4,310	5,852	22,238	116,851	2.45 GB

At our December committee meeting I will have a list of our customer reported troubles.

Bob B.
Area 35 webmaster
admin@area35.org

WEB TECHNOLOGY GUIDELINES

Area 35 Alcoholics Anonymous Trusted Servant Guidelines Approved: October 2013

WEB TECHNOLOGY

Description:

The Web Technology position is a non voting and temporary technical position. This position does require a knowledge of HTML, PHP, MySQL, and other programming skills. This position will require the use of a computer, access to the WEB and email.

The primary goal of the Web Technology position is to complete aameetinglocator.org and design a support plan for aameetinglocator.org. Propose a plan to allow other Areas within the West Central Region to join aameetinglocator.org. Present the plan to the 2014 Fall Assembly.

Follow recommendations by the Area 35 assemblies. Follow GSO's website guidelines.

Make a physical backup copy of the aameetinglocator.org database once per month.

Make physical changes to the website as requested by the Webmaster, Area Committee, or Area 35 Assembly.

Designate one person on the web committee to have a backup copy of all passwords and access codes pertaining to the website. With the exception of this one person, all passwords should be kept private.

(Web Technology guidelines continued)

Respond to any email inquiries in a timely manner. Area 36 will assist in inquiries that are best handled in Area 36.

Review usage reports from our aameetinglocator.org web provider, and share them with the committee. Reports will also be shared with Area 36 Web Chair and Area 35 Webmaster.

Make sure all copyright and other laws are adhered to regarding our website.

Keep all billing/registration records up to date with current names, addresses, phone numbers, and private registration. LinkSky is our current WEB host and domain name registrar.

Support and participate in training opportunities at the Area, District, or Group level.

Support ad-hoc committees as appropriate.

Responsibilities:

Attend all Area 35 Committee Meetings, all Area Assemblies, Area 35 Service Workshop, Area 35/36 Joint Workshop and Annual Service Conferences.

Attend Regional Forums and/or West Central Regional Conference where fully reimbursed.

Provide leadership in the area.

Read and become familiar with “Suggestions for Area Action Committee Chairpersons.”

Read and become familiar with the Area Finance Policy, the Area's Statement of Financial Responsibility, Trusted Servant Guidelines, the Area Past Actions and Recommendations Book, and any other documents the Area has developed from its experience.

Manage committee activities within the Financial Statement of Responsibility requesting additional funds if necessary.

Clear over budget expenditures with the Area Chairman and Treasurer prior to incurring the expense.

Submit for reimbursement of expenses in a timely manner to ensure a consistent and more predictable disbursement of Area funds.

Be available to committees, Districts and groups to provide experience, strength and hope with respect to the committee chairperson.

Report committee activities and information in each issue of the Northern Light Newsletter, all Area Assemblies, and Committee Meetings.

Keep accurate minutes of all meetings and distribute to Area 35 secretary in a timely manner.

Keep an accurate record of tasks and technical level to complete the task. This will help Area 35 make an informed decision on the support needed to maintain aameetinglocator.org

Keep all payments up to date for aameetinglocator.org WEB site and domain names.

Keep Area 36 informed about aameetinglocator.org expenses and their suggested share of the expenses.

Update the Trusted Servant Guidelines for the Web Technology. Submit the updated guidelines to the Area 35 Chairperson no later than the June Committee Meeting of your 2nd year.

When rotating out help the incoming Webmaster/Technology Chair with experience, records, information, and any other helpful suggestions for serving.

(Web Technology guidelines continued)

Tools

A working PC
 Internet access
 FTP software (Free versions are OK)
 E-mail
 E-mail client like outlook or thunderbird. (Thunderbird is free)
 Office software like “OpenOffice” (Free) or MS word etc.

Experience:

Working knowledge of PHP software or willing to learn
 Working knowledge of mapping software
 Working knowledge of MySQL and phpadmin
Working knowledge of HTML

GRAPEVINE

Lots to share and so little time! Really they say time flies when your having fun. Been a real pleasure being of service to AA and area35. Plus meeting new and old friends from our area and area 36 and region-Enjoyed serving you as your Grapevine Chair. Also working along side of our Literature chair Sean D. Been a pleasure and having the opportunity that I had this rotation, was one that I would like to share, a combined both at DECC in Duluth with are 36 Carla N. Area 36 special needs chair, was our coach for the time we had sharing at the both. Again thanks for letting be of service, after being asked to fill in for Art A. Who had to step down as Grapevine chair- hope this finds Art in good heath.

Talking of Carla N. Area 35 special needs chair, at that service function this summer it was a area 35/36 CPC and Special needs both in Duluth. Carla as our coach for our time at booth-asked her why no Grapevine literature and if she received a Grapevine subscription. Shared nope, get rid of those gray pages and she would consider. Since that sharing she has rethought and possible receive a Grapevine subscription- Also thru this rotation members have shared that they have started a Grapevine meeting, and that they have devoted a time in there format to share grapevine. Maybe this is something that your home group would like to do at your business meeting suggest to include a Grapevine topic maybe once a month.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1985, the GSC recommended that “Grapevine committees seek ways to work with Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Correctional facilities, Treatment Facilities, and other service committees with the aim of increasing the use of Grapevine as a tool in caring the message”

One of current issues spotlights, Don’t Drink and go to Meetings. Early in sobriety I was told this by a Professional was something like this going to meetings, calling your sponsor and reading your Big Book.

As we have a newly elected area chair has committee chairs newly assigned, new rotation at group, district and our area GVR’s need to down load newly revised handbooks/workbook. Seems that still a lot to accomplish as GVR’s, continue to have subscription forms and Grapevine literature available for additional tools in sobriety. Our Literature guy has many, many items that has been important in my sobriety. So that’s why thru rotation our tables have been side by side!

Had one possible disappointment thru rotation haven’t been able to organize our past delegates who are all GVR’s to present a skit/presentation with them all dressed up in purple. Would like of called it a CLUSTER OF GRAPES FROM AREA 35 PAST DELEGATES- promoting the Grapevine- but there is hope in next rotation with our out going delegate and the excitement he will bring as a new GVR!

Will have a inventory of all Grapevine literature as I rotate.

One last time, Do you have a Grapevine subscription or is there any Grapevine literature that you need! Go to www.aagrapevine.org sign up for quote of day and keep up to date by receiving Grapevine news letter. Also online Audio Project: Listen and then record- AA Grapevine is collecting recorded stories in member’s own voices. Visit www.aagrapevine.org/audio-portal for additional information. Also Grapevine-Gift Certificate Bulk Discounts: # Copies 1 Year Discount, 1 \$28.97, 2 to 19 \$26.07 10% And so on!

Thanks for Letting me be of service!

Carey A.
 Area 35 Grapevine Chair

COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED**ARCHIVES**

Greetings from Northern Minnesota

It is hard to believe that 2 years has passed. Time flies when you are having fun! I had the opportunity to attend the forum in September and I continue to be in awe of the unconditional love and dedication of the many who believe in Alcoholics Anonymous and continue tirelessly to carry the message. I have learned a lot about our history and discovered how much I have yet to learn. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in such a marvelous organization. The Fall assembly was yet another learning weekend and the enthusiasm is overwhelming at times. Thanks for all you do and congratulations to Jake, our new delegate. I am confident he will serve us well. Thank you Jim for your tireless work and love for the program. My hat is off to everyone who worked to make these past 2 years a success.

Your trusted servant,

Antonette
Area 35 Archive Chair

ARCHIVIST

Greetings everyone

The reception of the Archives display at the St. Cloud Round-Up was enthusiastic to say the least. I had several conversations about our singleness of purpose and how it developed. I had a profuse amount of questions about the 1939 Big Book and pre- publication multi-lith. I had a ton of questions about the upcoming release of the conference approved reproduction Big Book. Saturday Afternoons Archives tour was very well attended and warmly received. I even got asked a question about Tom Powers' sobriety date that I couldn't answer and had to do some research.

I look forward to working with the incoming Archives Chair, whoever that may be and the rest of the incoming Area Committee.

Please keep those district minutes coming.

Brad Iverson
Area 35 Archivist.

CORRECTIONS

Hello All,

It sure has been busy in the past couple months, with Moose Lake Transition Fair, Statewide Corrections Committee, Fall Assembly. I would like to thank all of you for the opportunity to serve. Moose Lake Transition Fair gave me a new attitude toward this position, as you have probably already read Moose Lake is starting to work with the inmates from the start instead of waiting until the last year of their release.

It looks like we are going to have a GREAT opportunity to carry the A.A. message to those who suffer inside the prisons, but this also means we will need YOUR help, so PLEASE consider volunteering to put on meetings in our prisons. This is really getting exciting.

I do thank you for this opportunity to serve.

Skip D.
Area 35 Corrections Chair

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

I attended the Area 35 Fall Assembly in Detroit Lakes on October 5-6. Our PI/CPC break out session was informative and productive. My report on this session is detailed in this edition of the Northern Light. I am confident that our newly elected officers will do a fine job representing Area 35. I would like to express my gratitude to Area 35 for electing me to the position of Area Secretary for the upcoming 2014-15 rotation.

On October 16, 2013 I participated on an "Alcohol and Other Drugs Awareness and Prevention Community Panel" at the University of Minnesota Duluth Campus. My presentation covered: What is AA's Singleness of Purpose, What AA Does Do and What AA Does Not Do.

Following our Area Fall Assembly I completed preparation for our CPC booth at the 2013 St. Louis Health and Human Services Conference. I created a tri-fold CPC display for our booth. I also completed a volunteer information sheet for this event. Area 35 collaborated in this event with Districts 12 and 9. I set up our CPC display booth on October 16. On October 17, I worked our booth along with volunteers from District 12: Rodney S. Brad E. and Beth H. On October 17 John F. and Cathy from District 9 worked the booth and took down our display.

The 2013 St. Louis Health and Human Services Conference was held at the DEC in Duluth MN. This conference was attended by 2,500 health and human services professionals from districts throughout the state of Minnesota. Many of the attendees at this conference also visited the exhibit hall. The number of social workers and health care professionals whom visited our CPC booth was far beyond all expectations. Both John F. from District 9 and I agreed that it was the busiest AA exhibit that both of us have ever been a part of (I have worked the Area 35/36 MN State Fair Booth for seven recent years). We were able to carry our message to many professionals through a large amount of AA literature that was picked up by conference attendees. We were able to disseminate over three hundred small cards that gave information of the newly launched AAmeetingLocator.org. The Area Assembly voted in August to contribute \$500.00 to cover the booth cost, literature costs and CPC Chair travel expenses for this event. We came in well under budget for this event. Booth costs were \$200.00, we utilized our current CPC literature inventory and my travel/hotel expenses were within the \$100.00 budget given to me for this event. I would also like to thank Servando M. for recruiting volunteers from District 12 for this event.

As this rotation comes to an ending point soon I have mixed emotions. We were able to add a new dimension to our area CPC work in participating in two major events attended by many professionals. These professionals will very likely pass our message on to potential members of our fellowship. I was able to work with a number of districts directly on CPC and many more districts at our Area Committee Meetings and Assemblies. However, I was not able to work with every district in our Area, as I had hoped to do, on CPC initiatives, in this rotation. For this I do owe an amends to these districts.

In closing I would very much like to express my gratitude to Area 35 for allowing me to serve as your CPC Chair in 2012-2013.

In Service,

Roger R.
Area 35 CPC Chair

COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED

GROUP RECORDS

Hi Everyone, Wow here I am again hoping you are all healthy and safe as we come upon another Holiday Season may many blessings find you and your families.

I have been busy updating FNV and the Northern Light Mailing List. I would like to thank Tim R from District 13 for meeting with me and for all his hard work.

Since the fall Assembly I attended the meeting in Debs and what a wonderful turn out even in God's country! Wow beautiful and it was a meeting I needed to be at! I went on a 13 day family trip and it was good and than I had to come back to work enough said.

To have your flyer inserted into the Northern Light I need 600 and a check that is made out to NMAA and given to the Area 35 Treasurer for \$75 to defray mailing cost.

Updates have been coming in regularly which is great I thank you and please do not forget to send me your new officers and chairs so that they can be updated for the next rotation.

Please be proud of yourselves for all the hard work you do for this program without you we would not exist!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Area 35 as Group Records it has been an Amazing experience.

Yours in humble service,

Sandy H.
Area 35 Group Records

NORTHERN LIGHT

This is my last newsletter report as your *Northern Light* editor. It has been a lot of fun. I hope you found the newsletter to be informative and useful. It is such a great tool for communication. Service work for my group, District, and now for the Area has truly blessed my life and given me multiple opportunities for growth.

Thank you all for letting me serve,

Jana M.
Area 35 Northern Light Editor

LITERATURE

Greetings Friends!

The A.A.W.S. Online Store is now up and running. Please visit aa.org to check out the site. I have found it fairly easy to browse and order material.

In the spotlight:
P-20; *A message to Corrections Professionals*
This pamphlet gives good information about what A.A. is and can do and how groups function in a correctional facility.

P-26; *A.A. in Correctional Facilities*
This pamphlet describes experiences based on the functions of A.A. groups in prisons, with institutional opinions recommending A.A. as an ally.

B-9 *Pass It On; The Story of Bill Wilson and How the A.A. Message Reached the World*
This hard cover book is the biography of A.A.'s co-founder and the development of the fellowship. It includes 39 photographs.

(Literature report continued)

It's hard to believe how fast these two years have gone by. The opportunity to serve as your Literature Chair has been one of many wonderful gifts I have been given by you and countless others in our fellowship. I can't thank Kelly enough for asking me and the gratitude I have for each and every one of you is immeasurable.

Yours in Service,

Sean D.
Area 35 Literature Chair

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Greetings

This will be my last NL report of the rotation. Where have the last two years gone. Once again we have elected capable officers to oversee Area 35 for the next two years. Being of Service and committing to the Fellowship as well as our own Recovery is rewarding and makes us stronger in our own lives and how we react with others. Has been quiet since Detroit Lakes but was able to attend the District 8, 9, 14 and 16's Joint Workshop as well as the Zone Four Mini Forum. Service has been a journey that has taken me many places and given me the chance to meet many people in recovery allowing me the wisdom on how I can be better in Service and how to better serve the still suffering alcoholic. Northern Minnesota AA is strong and I am glad to be a part of it.

Thank you for allowing me to serve

In Service,

Butch R.
Area 35 PI Chair

TREATMENT

We have had several requests this past month for "Bridging the Gap" contacts and also a request for local AA members to fulfill a new treatment commitment if possible at Riverview Recovery Center in Thief River Falls located in District 1. We are still in the process of communication to fulfill the obligation. There have been requests for AA meeting contact list from various Treatment Centers for locations and start times. I have referred them to the Ares 35 website for district times and locations as well as AA meeting locator .org and also sent meeting schedules for that particular District.

We attended the combined District Workshop in Virginia on October 26th and enjoyed the presentations and participation. It was well attended and had great attendance by the participating districts. We need to have more workshops in our Area to better serve the still suffering alcoholic. It has been a great two year service commitment and time sure fly's just when you think you have become better acquainted with the job. We will have our last committee meeting and final reports in December at the Area Committee and find out who are next incoming Committee Chairs are going to be. Until next time....

Yours in Service,

Randy A.
Area 35 Treatment Chair

ARTICLES**Bill Calls On A.A. To "Look Out Upon Its Destiny" As A Society***By Bill W., General Service Conference, 1961*

The 1961 Conference, like its predecessors was illuminated by several formal and informal presentations by Bill W., surviving co-founder of A.A. A recurring theme in these talks during the four day meeting was the importance of the Conference structure to assure sound growth of the Fellowship. Bill also emphasized the need to be realistic in evaluating A.A. activities to date, warning that humility and a spirit of cooperation should mark the Society's relations with others who share A.A.s concern with the problem of alcoholism.

Key excerpts from Bill's follows:

Contrast Between Good, Evil Societies

Since the beginning of recorded time, many societies and nations of civilizations have passed in review. In those great ones that have left their mark for good, in contrast with those who have left their mark for evil, there has been always a sense of history, a true and a high and a constant purpose, and there has always been a sense of destiny.

In the societies which failed to leave a bright mark in the annals of the world, there was always a false or boastful sense of history, always a mistaken or inadequate purpose and always the presumption of an infinite, a glorious and an exclusive destiny.

In the societies that left their mark of goodness on time, the sense of history was not a matter for pride or for glory; it was the substance of the learning of the experience of the past. In the purpose of such a society there was always truth and constancy, but never a supposition that the society had apprehended all of the truth-or the superior truth. And in the sense of destiny there was no conceit, no supposition that a society or nation or culture would last forever and go on to greater glories. But there was always a sense of duty to be fulfilled, whatever destiny the society might be assigned by providence for the betterment of the world.

This is the crossroads at which we in A.A. stand. This is a good time to re-examine how well we have looked upon our history and how much we have profited by it, what false insights or false glories we may have been extracting from history—to our future detriment. It is a moment to examine the purpose of this Society. Indeed, we are very lucky to be able to state as the nucleus of that purpose a single word: sobriety.

Need For More Quietude

Quite early we saw, however, that sobriety in abstinence from alcohol could never be attained unless there was sobriety and more quietude in the false motivations that underlay our drinking.

When the Twelve Steps were cast up- without any real experience and therefore under some Guidance, surely- we were given keys to sobriety in its wider implications. We have been blessed with a concrete definition of purpose but, for all its concreteness, we could still abuse it and misuse it in a very natural way.

Some times we begin to think that perhaps, according to the Scriptural promise, the first shall be last and the last- meaning us-shall really be first. That would indeed be a very dangerous presumption and never should we indulge it. If we do, we shall compete in history with other societies who have been ill-advised enough to suppose that they had a monopoly on truth or were in some way superior to other attempts of men to think and to associate in love and in harmony.

We may look out upon our destiny with no violation of our principle that we are to live one day at a time. We mean that, emotionally, each in his personal life is never to repine upon the past glory too much in the present or presume upon the future. We shall attend to the day's business but we shall try to apprehend ever more truth from the lessons of our history, not the lessons of our successes but the lessons of our defections, failures and the awful emotions that can be set loose upon us. For these, indeed, are the raw materials that God has used to forge this still rather little instrument called Alcoholics Anonymous. So we may look at destiny and we may ask ourselves about it and speculate upon it a little — if we do not presume to play God.

Fresh Freedom Under God

By this singular Providence which has been ours, it has been our privilege to walk through a new door that opened a quarter of a century ago. This quarter century, this brief span of life of Alcoholics Anonymous, has been characterized by exactly the reverse of what has been going on in the world around us. Each turning point in our history has opened up to fresh freedom under God for greater numbers of people.

When I was asked to write a greeting to this Conference, I think I used the word "family" in describing A.A. for perhaps the first time, it occurred to me that we were more than a therapy, more than a group of alcoholics trying to get along in the world. We here in this room were small fragments of a huge and growing family, a fragment collectively designated for the time being as "trusted servants" for the rest and appointed to a mission which would further our purpose and destiny.

Need To Establish Conference

You will remember that at St. Louis a huge transference took place. We old—timers realizing that we couldn't last forever, also realized that a linkage had to be made between you and this vital beacon of service right here. We realized that this Conference had to be established firmly and that you had to be given the opportunity to look after your own affairs worldwide. We had to apply Tradition Two to ourselves, formally passing the ultimate authority and responsibility over to you and to the generations that will follow you. This powerful experiment had to be tried. One of the most glorious moments in my whole A.A. career was the day when I first realized that in spite of my weakness and your weakness, we are going to do this—and that it would succeed. But there is more that has to be transferred than past authority and responsibility. And that this transfer has been going on a long time, I speak to you of the transfer of service leadership.

**AREA 35 FALL ASSEMBLY
OCTOBER 5 & 6, 2013
HOLIDAY INN
DETROIT LAKES, MN
Minutes**

Assembly Called to Order and Opened With the Serenity Prayer

Why We Need a Conference was read

Recognize Past Delegates - Panel 32-Tom L, Panel 38-Scott J., Panel 40-Bob J., Panel 44-Bruce B., Panel 48-Susie A., Panel 50-Tom A., Panel 52- Tim C., Panel 54- Charlie C., Panel 58-JoAnne N., Panel 60-Jon C., and also past Delegate Panel 59, Gail N., California, and Past Trustee at Large - US, Larry N.

Recognized the GSR's in attendance

Additions to the Agenda - No Additions

Approve Spring Assembly Minutes - Minutes were approved as written

OFFICER REPORTS

DELEGATE – Jim K. - Greetings members of Area 35. It is wonderful to see you all. I thank you for being here this weekend and for all the work you are all doing in each of your home groups and within your districts. It is crazy to think that this will be my final Fall Assembly as your delegate. It has been wonderful serving with so many great individuals like all of you. It has been a busy time since we last met as an assembly. I attended the 63rd General Service Conference, reported back to all of the districts, attended various district workshops, participated in a zonal forum, attended the West Central Regional Forum, and mailed out final reports to all districts. It is truly a privilege to be able to serve as your delegate and I am looking forward to the next couple months as we continue to serve together. The 63rd General Service Conference was an experience and I am thankful for the opportunity to attend. I was able to report back to all districts following the conference and I want to thank all DCM's for assisting in setting these up. If anyone would like a copy of my report back, please let me know and I will get you a copy. I also mailed out final reports to districts after receiving them from the GSO. If you would like a copy of the final reports, please see your DCM or our Area 35 Literature Chair who has all of the extra copies. Current AA Highlights include that total gross sales for the first 8 months through August are \$8,774,270, AAWS suggested that e-book versions be kept under print version equivalents, and that a soft-cover, abridged, large-print edition of the Big Book be produced in early 2014. Contributions through July were \$3,845,796. I want to offer a special thank you to all those who were willing to stand for delegate for Area 35 and for all those who will be standing for our other Area Officer positions. I also want to thank all the GSR's and DCM's that are serving their groups and districts. There is much to work to be done to carry this life saving message to those who still suffer. Finally I want to thank all of the districts who continue to send me their district minutes and for all the work that you are all doing to carry the message.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – Michael (Jake) J. - Good Morning. It is good to see you here in Detroit Lakes. This should be another exciting Assembly especially with our elections happening. It is one of the times when I feel that God is really talking through us. The last month has been busier with the West Central Regional Forum and a Zonal Forum that I attended along with an Open Alanon meeting and a Men's retreat. I also got to help with the elections in District 9, passing out and counting ballots. So Fall time is our get it going time. The Forum was a little different as there were more First time attendees than those of us that usually show up. Maybe this is an exciting time in AA when more people are stepping up to learn and serve. Wouldn't that be wonderful? There were a lot of informative topics that were shared on including a report on the grapevine that showed their steps on cost reduction. We also had an informative financial report. I thought it was interesting to find out that it costs us \$900,000.00 a year just to take in our money. Researching group numbers and matching checks to groups. We are lucky Steve does it for nothing. I was also a little shocked to see that the archival cost was so high at GSO (About \$900,000.00) I attended some presentations and workshops, one on our primary purpose where the discussion varied from how we present our message to the Newcomer to what it is. I also attended the AA Growth - now and into the future which Terry the Area 36 Delegate filled in for, there was lots of discussion on young people and what they find in AA. Sometimes it seems we start singling out certain groups and forget that AA is about alcoholism and it's recovery. If we treat all drunks the same we will be okay. There was good discussion from AA's that had special needs like being deaf or blind. It was refreshing to know that people were there to seek their own solutions rather than have us fix their needs in our ways. I attended the AA and advancing technologies workshop. After spending time with Blaine B. from Florida at dinner and sharing experience strength and hope together it made this workshop easier for me to understand. He is trying to find interest in a gathering of webmasters and technology people so we can work together and not waste so much time spinning our wheels. It was nice to see our webmaster Bob recognized for his hard work and what a great job he has been doing by Area 36 Folks and others. Thank you to Bob. We have people that serve that sometimes go above and beyond in their duties which are great but we must remember that we are not setting the bar for our future servants in comparison with those people. I thought Terry B. our board chairperson and the other GSO staff did well in answering our questions and learning that as AA members we are very much a part of GSO not letting it run itself. Our past trustees that attended did a great job of sharing, keeping things humorous and sharing things that were close to their hearts. On a humorous side both Butch and I asked to have our nick names on our pre registered badges and we were both stuck with Michael and Robert. The Zonal Forum held in Cold Spring was sparsely attended but those that were there enjoyed meeting our Area Officers. A few were close friends and said they were surprised how much they learned and at the good presentations. So we will have our last one in Zone 4 at the District 8 Workshop on October 26th and hope to see you there. I have enjoyed this time spent as your Alternate Delegate even with health and life problems it is always worthwhile to serve Area 35. Thank You.

AREA CHAIR – Kelly D. - Greetings Area 35. It is great to be here with all of you this weekend at our last Assembly of this rotation. We met with the GSR's this morning and we had 28 in attendance with 9 being new. I have always enjoyed the time we get to spend with all of them at our Assemblies and I would like to thank them again for their commitment to be of service to Area 35. I attended the WCR Forum in Bloomington September 6-8th. There were a total of 518 in attendances for this conference and 305 of them were first time attendees. It was a great weekend discussing issues we are faced within Alcoholics Anonymous with some of our General Service staff from our finances with David M. to our Grapevine with Michelle G. and Jon W. just to name a few. The presentations on "Our Primary Purpose, Self Support, Rule #62 and Public Information" done by some of our regional Delegates brought forth good discussion from the floor. I also sat in on the "Primary Purpose – Tradition Five" workshop facilitated by Jim, our Delegate and "Communication in AA: Connecting the Group with AA as a whole" facilitated by Missy P., Area 36 Secretary on Saturday evening. There was great participation and attendance at both of them on these topics. I walked away that weekend with a grateful heart for all that serve Alcoholics Anonymous. Each one of us are just a small part of a big whole that keeps this fellowship alive and continuing to carry our message of hope to the still suffering alcoholic through service work. Thank you to all that are will-

ing to do just that! I attended along with the other Area Officers the Zone II Forum in Cold Spring on September 14th. I was given the opportunity to present first because I wanted to attend a benefit for a coworker that has cancer. My drive to that event was going to be another two hours. I appreciated everyone understanding that it was important for me to be a part of that too also. I did however get to meet and spend some time before hand with some great people that are serving in District 15. Our last Zonal Forum of our rotation will be in Zone IV on October 26th in Virginia. We have been given time to present after District 8, 9, 14 and 16 have their Service Workshop that day. I would like to thank Rolene, DCM District 8 for her work in making this happen for us. Last I would like to say that it has truly been a time of learning and growth for me as your Area Chair. Words cannot express my heartfelt gratitude to so many that have helped me along this journey. Thank you Area 35 for the opportunity you gave me to serve. To all of you here today, wherever your journey may take you next, may you always feel the presence of a loving God of your understanding in all that you do.

SECRETARY – Mary S. - I typed and e-mailed the minutes from the last Committee Meeting in Aitkin. I drove to Bemidji and attended District 21's District Meeting. I made flyers for the Winter Workshop in January in Moorhead. Unfortunately I was unable to attend the West Central Regional Forum and the Zonal Forum in Cold Spring because I attended two family weddings on both weekends. I plan to attend the Service Workshop in Virginia on October 26th. Jim K. will be speaking in the evening as well. The Area 35 committee meeting will be in December at the Aitkin Alano Clubhouse. I'm working on the Area Actions Book and bringing it up to date. I'll get copies made after the December actions are included in the book and have them ready for the February Committee Meeting in Aitkin. Thank you for the opportunity to serve Area 35.

TREASURER – Steve L. - Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen - I have placed the handouts on the back table - please look at the one with the Group Contributions from Aug - Sept and your group's year to date contributions and birthday contributions - It lists your groups service number, if there is no number, then that means we don't have your number - see Sandy if you need one or just don't know what it is. I will place that number in my database which I keep track of. On the back of that form is the other income that we have for special contributions and special events - We got a contribution for the Gopher State Round-up. The amends payment has been paid in full. The total income so far for the last period is \$5652.00, and Contributions for Year to Date income is: \$23,257.71. The expenses are listed, the officer's expenses and you'll notice year to date expenses are 33% under budget and our income is 3% under budget. You can get a good picture of our fiscal status by looking at this expense sheet - We're \$534.55 less than what we started the year with. You can also see the details of the expenses for the events that we have been doing this past year and how much everything costs. We haven't gotten a State Fair bill yet but that one will be for \$500.00. There are also envelopes on the back table with my address on them. Remember that beginning in January there will be new addresses and new envelopes. Please remember to pick up the new envelopes with the new addresses. Otherwise, after a year they end up in limbo and don't get cashed and stay current. Thank you for allowing me to serve you the past two years. I have learned a lot about Alcoholics Anonymous and how it works.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS

CORRECTIONS – Skip D. - Good day to all, At the Corrections Committee meeting we had 13 in attendance, Districts 2,3,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13 are represented.

Old Business discussed - Thistledeew men's meeting, District 8 had contacted them. Still waiting to hear back. I will keep District 9 and I posted. District 7 is going to find out why there are no A.A. meetings in Sandstone. The change of wardens in Federal and State facilities can be good or bad, understanding of A.A. is not being moved with the wardens, A.A.'s themselves are not showing up. There are some coordinators that are not clearing A.A. volunteers. We did go through the Corrections minutes from the joint Area 35/36 workshop from July 20th. It was brought up, what happen to the proposal that was supposed to be at the spring assembly? I was going to meet with the Area Officers and Committee Chairs at 5:00 to discuss this. I did attend my first Corrections Transition Fair in Moose Lake on Oct. 3rd. What a wonderful experience. Thank you all who volunteered.

District 8- Rolene L. - Hello from District 8. Can't believe this is almost our last Assembly and our rotation is over...District 8 had our elections Sept. 4th, our incoming DCM will be Jerry B. We filled most of our positions. District 8 will have a great rotation coming in. I attended the West Central Regional Forum in Bloomington with GSO, it was a great experience. I got to meet people from New York. I attended two of the workshops. It was awesome to see so many from all over the states. Hearing what goes on at GSO. We are having our Service Workshop October 26th in Virginia at the Our Savior's Lutheran Church. District 8,9,14 & 16 - this workshop is to help the incoming chairs in doing their responsibility in service. The evening AA speaker will be our Area Delegate, Jim K. As of a couple weeks ago, we are also having a mini Forum the last hour of our workshop with the Area Officers. Also, District 8 is working on our Action Booklet to have it completed for the next rotation. This has not been done for 4 years. So they have been getting the information to have this done. All we have left is the last six months of our rotation to complete this. I have been visiting groups and plan on visiting 8 more. Then I have been to each group in our District. I am grateful to District 8 for allowing me to serve as DCM. It has been a good experience in patience, leadership and fellowship. Thank you everyone for all I am learning in this journey. And for that I am truly thankful.

District 9 - John F. - Hello from District 9. All is well on the Iron Range. I had the pleasure of attending the Regional Forum. I had a great time. I attended the special needs workshop and learned so much. We met great people and had many good conversations. We had our elections and we have a new DCM

CPC CHAIR - Roger R. - Our agenda for the PI/CPC break-out session today included: Reports from 14 members of our meeting on District and Area: CPC actions. Districts represented at our meeting included 18, 13, 9, 21, 3, 17, and 6. Current District CPC Actions include: Planning CPC luncheons, supplying local meeting lists to law enforcement officers, casino employees, cooperating with University Recovery Programs.

Old Business - MN Age and Disability Odyssey reached several hundred social workers who visited our booth. Collaborated with Area 36 on this event which was held June 2013 in Duluth at the DECC.

New Business - St. Louis County Health and Human Services Conference, October 17 - 18, Area 35 is working with Districts 8, 9 & 12 on this CPC Event attended by 2,000 professionals.

Two discussion items were the 24 hour District AA Assistance Lines and Courts dumping everyone on AA Meetings, singleness of purpose.

I am looking forward to participating in a Panel Discussion at UMD on October 16th. I would also like to thank Area 35 for supporting my attendance at the WCRAASF in Bloomington, MN. Thank You for the opportunity to serve Area 35.

District 11 - Bill C. - We voted to have our district meeting every month. There are a lot of exciting things going on. A new coffee shop opened up in town so we are adding new meetings. Our District is growing. I'm working on creating a booth at the Health and Wellness Expo. Thanks everyone.

District 18 - Neil R. - District Meeting is the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at Long Prairie Alano Club. We had 5 people at our last District Meeting. Right now, we have Secretary, CPC, PI Archives and Treatment Positions either open or non-responsible. But we are doing what we can. Long Prairie had a round robin last month that went over well. Jail meetings are going good with about 15 people accepted to go in. Bookmobile still getting around to Round Robins, they sold a few at LP.RR. Even with District dispersing \$400.00 to initiate the bookmobile, District 18 has been able to maintain a prudent level of funds. We will be voting for new chair positions at next month's meeting on December 5th.

District 14 - Stephanie H. - Greetings from way up north. District 14 will be holding elections at our October District Meeting. We have had to replace our secretary/treasurer and PI/CPC Chairs. We are working on a presentation for the Police/Court and Attorneys. The long talked about meeting cards will be out this month. While we are a small core group we have folks that are passionate about AA and carrying the message.

GRAPEVINE CHAIR - Carey A. - We had 7 in attendance 8, 4, 5 & 3. The Grapevine/Literature chair, Grapevine/Literature DCM's, and Past Delegate which rotated from Delegate to GVR.

1) Have Grapevine Literature available this weekend!! GVR Workbook download new revised workbook - New Books available are No Matter What, Dealing with Adversity in Sobriety, One on One - AA sponsorship in Action.

2) 15 EBook titles are available.

3) Grapevine Catalog - not all items are listed but all are available.

4) Shipping cost G.V. Cost.

5) Pages that are in Grapevine - some believe may be an outside issue should be in the Grapevine.

6) A resource for me has been past delegates. Tom A. Brought up that this possible new pamphlet Atheist/Agnostic in AA we really don't need - Grapevine has a book on it - Spiritual Awakening.

7) District 8 making all Grapevine Literature and subscriptions. District 4 - Grapevine/Literature available Alano Clubs in District 5. District 5 has a Grapevine subscription - Maybe other Districts could look at possible and pass grapevine around to groups. District 5 suggested that DCMs bring this up at Group Level have GVR's. We discussed upcoming rotations.

I attended Area 35/36 workshop in July not much representation from Area 36 - one District GV Literature chair. Spent some time with Senior Editor Grapevine believe he is sharing that he meet Area 35 Grapevine Chair - good or bad!!

District 4 – Jim T. - District 4 continues to experience some changes within leadership roles. Our Secretary stepped aside in August due to a job change. Deb H. of Alexandria volunteered to be this replacement and assumed her duties in September. The literature chair has passed the torch due to new duties in his job. We are seeking a replacement until elections are held in November. District Officers will be elected in November for the next 2 year cycle. Our Business meetings continue to be held in conjunction with a Round Robin, and the site moves around the district each month. Two communities continue to “be black” as there currently are no meetings in Wheaton or Browns Valley. Efforts are underway to bring meetings back to both communities. The District will discuss the need for an inventory at its January meeting, as the last inventory was taken 3 years ago.

District 15 – Pete B. - Greetings from District 15. Elections of new officers for District was held at August 5th District Meeting. Clint J. was voted in as the DCM. Pete B. was voted in as Alternate DCM, Paul A was voted in as Treasurer, and Candice H. was voted in as Secretary. Thanks go out to Sandy H. who did a great job with setting and taking care of the Literature Booth at the Stearns County Fair. District 15 donated Big Books to the St. Cloud Prison with District 15 and Area 35 stamped on the inside cover. Zonal Forum was held September 14th at the Cold Spring Alano Club. Area and District Officers attended with just a few others. I was disappointed with the small turnout.

WEBMASTER – Robert (Bob) B. - My name is Bob and I am an alcoholic. I attended the West Central Forum and attended the special needs workshop. I came back and signed up for an ASL class and I can say my name using sign language. I don't know where I am going with it... I attended the advancing technologies workshop. People are using technology and we need to be talking about it. They are going to hold a conference similar to the national conference on this. We are storing all of our own flyers on our own calendars on our website. You can print off your flyers for upcoming events for your groups. The meeting lists are being updated. There is interest out there in filling our service positions.

ARCHIVES – Antonette F. - There were 7 in attendance this morning - District 8, 9, 2, 21, 12, 13 and Brad I. We opened with the Serenity Prayer. Mike from District 2 - new DCM, Long term meeting, 4 speakers with 30 something years, 17 in attendance. Stan, Dist 21, Archives Workshop 10/21/13. Brad will speak. Servando - looking for people to serve. Archives chair was asked to continue as she began half way through. I attended the Forum in Sept. I continue to be in awe of the power of AA on all levels. My term is winding down and I can't believe how fast time has passed. I continue to learn about our past to ensure our future. My thanks to all who participate in Alcoholics Anonymous on all levels. It takes a village to raise a family, thanks for my AA family. Thanks for allowing me to serve.

District 2 - Michael H. - As of our last District Business meeting we elected our DCM by a majority vote due to inactivity of functions. As by a previous vote by the district, a DCM could be elected out with 3 or more functions missed. I was voted in to fill out the rest of the rotation to end at the end of the year. Replacing my GSR position of my home group and stepping up to be DCM was in my opinion a good move for me and my group plus the District because I can be of service to all 3. Within the first 2 weeks as DCM I traveled to groups to share information about the District, and spark interest in service, as we have not been getting good attendance at the District Business meetings. And we also have plenty of positions that need to be filled. We were supposed to have our regular scheduled elections in September but postponed them until November because A. We had low attendance and B. No one was really interested in filling a position for the next rotation. When I traveled to those groups the group actually elected a GSR, and others were interested in the other group. Also, at the end of September, the District put on a long timer panel with four members that had 30 plus years of sobriety. The function was a success and was well worth the trip. Another decision the district made a few months ago was to cancel the Roundup in Thief River Falls. There was plenty of excitement to get it going but the couple roundup committee meetings we held were as far as it went. Hopefully this is something the district will look into at a future time. Also, our district is doing an inventory but we skipped it last time because no one remembered the questions. We will continue the inventory at our next business meeting.

District 12 - Servando M. - Greetings from District 12. District 12 will be having our elections later this month and are hopeful for a great turnout. Our treatment and corrections commitments are being fulfilled. We are pleased to announce that one of our committee members stepped up to be our treatment chair. We were made aware of a mental health facilitator's convention the week after the health and human services. We were asked to provide a booth with pamphlets. Thanks for the opportunity to be of service.

ARCHIVIST - Brad I. - Since the August committee I have not accomplished much except work. As of Thursday night as I type this I have put in 51 hours this week. Huge turnover and short staffing forced me to cancel my trip to the National AA Archives Workshop. I could not attend the Duluth Round Up because of a family wedding. I did manage to set off the alarm at the repository though. I retrieved a document and scanned it for the area chair. I am grateful to be here this weekend even though I do need to leave

my phone on in case work calls. I am going to Bemidji next week to give a history talk and I am doing a display and Archives tour at the St. Cloud Roundup at the end of the month. I did attend the Regional Forum in Bloomington in September which is always a very rewarding experience. There were some passionate pleas from remote communities within our communities. The native Somali speakers need a Somali Big Book. The ASL community needs more interpreters for meetings and would like people from their community signing in our videos instead of an interpreter. Our AAWS treasurer gave a very detailed report on our finances which I am sure Steve already covered. Twice, once in a presentation and once in a video, the 1939 Liberty was mentioned as being the first AA article in a national magazine. I did make a point of clarification of that issue. I also brought up that some of our most popular supposed history speakers are inaccurate. I had some great notes but someone absconded with the legal pad I took notes on and doesn't know what she did with it. Keep those minutes coming.

LITERATURE – Sean D. - Greetings friends! I trust this report finds all of you well and enjoying the beautiful days we have together. I only had a couple of orders for the Assembly and have fulfilled these requests. Thanks to those who attended the Action Committee meeting this morning. Districts 3, 4, 5 & 8 were represented. There was good conversation about the happenings with literature and grapevine in the Districts represented. ** Did you know there is a wonderful display by my good friend Corey of much of the GREAT Grapevine products at the back of the conference hall? Please be sure to visit and be sure to tell Corey I said "Hi". Online literature ordering is still not available individuals but is for registered customers with an account. I used the online service for my most recent order and it went well. As I reported last time in Aitkin, updated shipping charges are in places and are as follows: 0-50 \$10.00, 51-250 19%, 251-500 16%, over 500 N/C

There is a bargain table at the back of the room with GREAT deals on some older material - VHS and Cassette, older service manuals for significant reduced prices or for free. "Let's talk!" I have a ton of pamphlets available at a great bundle rate. Come on back and see what we have to offer. Thank you for the opportunity to serve and I hope your weekend exceeds all your expectations.

District 13 - Scott B. - Read by Christine... Good afternoon. I'm Christine, an Alcoholic. I am filling in for Scott B. Dist 13 DCM. District 13 had nominations last district meeting and all positions have nominations. We are excited about the involvement. Voting will take place November 4th. Treatment is working with Northway IRT to educate the clients on what AA is and is not. Northway IRT is a program for people with chemical and mental health issues. PI is working on new meeting schedules for the district and they anticipate being ready at the end of the month. We had a booth at Benton County Fair. Good involvement and well noticed by community. Corrections are always in need of Big Books to take into the prisons. Jails and Prisons have all volunteer openings filled.

District 5 - Heidi R. - Greetings from District 5. In September we held our district meeting at the Elk River Alano Club in Otsego instead of Freshwaters Church in Zimmerman due to scheduling conflict with the church. We had elections for all District 5 Officers and Chairs. The AA members elected for the 2014/2015 rotation are: DCM - Dean, Alternate DCM - Jon, Treasurer - Dan, Treatment - Bob, CPC/PI - Jake, and Archives - Andy. We have open positions that we hope to fill at our next district meeting which are Secretary, Corrections Chair, and Literature/Grapevine Chair. At our last district meeting we also agreed to have a permanent contact person with the Sherburne County Jail. This was a request by the coordinator at Sherburne County Jail. We will still have a Corrections Chair who performs the same duties as always. The jail would like to have someone they can always contact if they have questions or concerns and cannot contact the current Corrections Chair. I want to thank Skip D. for being our male contact and Margo for being our female contact with Sherburne County Jail. Rita, CPC/PI Chair, is getting volunteers for the next rotation of the Sherburne County Probation Orientation Meeting. She is also updating our meeting schedule and plans to have enough schedules to make it through the end of the rotation. Our Literature/Grapevine Chair continues to have literature for groups to purchase and promote the Grapevine. We are still providing speakers for two treatment centers once a month. Finally we have made guidelines for all District 5 positions to assist the new rotation. I am going to have them in the District 5 Actions Booklet I am in the process of creating. The guidelines helped us when we had elections. Do AA members considering a position know what they would need to do? I continue to work with the Area 35 Group Records Secretary on updating group information.

TREATMENT – Randy A. - We attended the WCRAAF in Bloomington, MN on Sept 6, 7 and 8th, 2013. What an honor and privilege to participate in this prestigious service event. Despite some of the vague information given by the General Service Board during the question/answer sessions, the topics and sessions were quite informative and interesting. Saturday evening I attended the Treatment/Special Needs Accessibility Workshop with 42 members present. The discussions intrigued me a bit, as there was a dominance of members from Area 36 present. They talked about self support and the 7th tradition. They have what's called a "Gold Can" or "Green Can Plan" in addition to the "pink can plan" which is used for funding literature. The gold Can and Green Can are used to support ASL (American Sign Language) interpreters, and a 7th Tradition basket or kitty is collected at meetings in addition to the Pink Can and regular 7th Tradition basket. So in some meetings, they pass around three baskets or cans. I question whether this is a violation of our 7th Tradition. There were also concerns about anonymity involving American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters at meetings and affiliation with other entities. There is an ever growing need for ASL Interpreters for deaf Alcoholics in Alcoholics Anonymous. Some of these ASL funds are budgeted at the district level and are included with other financial services. There were members present that also had mental disabilities and physical handicaps. They stated that some meetings are oblivious to the alcoholic with special needs and there needs to be more awareness from our fellowship. The attendance for the Forum that week-end was 518 with 305 newcomers. On September 25th I was invited to speak at a function at Fortune Bay/Resort Casino in Tower, MN that was sponsored by the Bois Forte Chemical Dependency and Human Services Program from Nett Lake. It involved treatment clients, professionals and the general public from all over Northern Minnesota which had 162 attendees and also included an excellent dinner and medallion ceremony. I briefed myself with the pamphlet "Speaking at Non AA Meetings" and shared a little bit about "what AA is and isn't and the importance of Sponsorship, Home Group and the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. The audience was very attentive and receptive. In closing, it has been an exciting fun-filled month with many activities going on and many more to come. It is always a pleasure to be in the company of fellow alcoholics from around the area and share our experience, strength and hope.

District 1 - Irene J. - Greetings from District 1. We will be holding our next district meeting on Sunday, October 13th at the Fertile Community Center, opening at 2:00 pm. This will be the meeting that we will be holding elections for the next rotation. Jon S. is our alternate and will be the new DCM for District 1. Thank you to Jon. Reminders were sent out to groups GSR's so that hopefully we will have a great attendance and hoping to fill all positions. We recently held our end of summer gathering with about 10 attending. Thanks to all that brought a dish to pass, it was very good. Since there was such a small turn out we ended it early. It was mentioned that maybe we should move it into town and have it early and then maybe there would be a bigger turnout.

District 7 - Neil F. - Warm greetings to all from District 7! District 7 meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the First United Congregational Church in Brainerd. This meeting starts at 7 pm and ends at 8:30 pm. Our next meeting will be on October 17th, we will be conducting district business and electing our next rotation to serve. We have strong interest with the required willingness and should fill the majority if not all, positions. District 7 will be hosting a sponsorship workshop on October 26th from 11 am - 2 pm. This will be held in Aitkin at the Alano Club. All AA's are welcome. In addition, the District will be hosting a GSR school on December 12th. At 6 pm in Brainerd. The purpose of the GSR school is to help prepare our new GSR's to serve their groups effectively,

to learn about the AA service structure including District, Area and GSO, to learn about support resources and to have fun and good fellowship as we enjoy some chili and ice cream together. All AA's and especially all GSR's are welcomed to attend. The district continues to be active and well supported by the groups we serve, with minimal controversy as we trudge along together.

PI - Butch R. - We met this morning with CPC and had 14 in attendance. Districts reported on various activities. Meeting schedules, phone line, beginners meeting and various prospects underway. After sharing, we had discussion on singleness of purpose, phone lines and what various districts are doing in these areas. Let us not forget the libraries, public places, rest stops and other area's that let us display information on who we are, what we are about and how to find us. I attended the forum, got in and shared at two of the workshops. I will be attending the Forum/Workshop in Zone IV later on this month. As this rotation closes I want to thank you for appointing me and allowing me to serve as your public information chair.

District 3 - Jim S. - Good afternoon. I would like to take a moment to thank all those of district 3 who volunteered their time today and tomorrow. We have a few positions currently open. We will be having elections for the 2014-2015 term. I am hopeful that we will have plenty of volunteers to fill our committee positions. We have been fulfilling our treatment and corrections commitments. We are also fortunate to have plenty of 7th tradition donations to fund our trusted servants. We are remodeling our annual roundup after we inventoried the results of the past three events. Melvin S will be stepping down as meeting list chair after ten years of service. Thank you so much. Our new CPC/PI chair is out making new contacts with the professional community. I am certain that these efforts will result in some well attended luncheons. Our treatment chair had an interesting "newcomer" meeting format that has been successfully implemented in Moorhead with several treatment centers. We hope to see that brought to other communities. I would like to thank District 3 for the opportunity to serve as DCM for the past 3 1/2 years. And I am looking forward to whatever the next request AA asks of me. I would lastly like to thank all the wonderful people I have met over the years.

District 6 - Dave A. - Hi! My name is Dave and I am an alcoholic and the current DCM for District 6. District 6 covers most of Isanti County, a lot of Chisago County and a bit of Anoka, Washington and Pine Counties. Most of our activities in recent times have been in Isanti and Chisago counties. One of our activities is to put on A.A. meetings in the Isanti County Jail on a weekly basis. We rotate a different group of volunteer people into this each month. Another activity is that we put on AAI's (A.A. Informational Meeting) every second week at a local treatment center with their clients. We show the video "Hope" then go on to what A.A. is and what it is not. We also give them the opportunity to get an outside contact that can meet with them upon their release and take them to some A.A. Meetings. We just started working on getting packets of our meeting cards on public bulletin boards in our local community. We have been updating our Meeting Card quite regularly. As of late our district meetings have not been well attended and hopefully that can change. We never did get most of our Action Chairperson Positions filled this rotation, but we are still hopeful for improvement. Thanks.

GROUP RECORDS - Sandy H. - A big thank you to all who have helped me with group records. If you think Sean and Carey have some great bargains I have your Northern Light for free. Please come and get yours! We had a great meeting this morning with Districts 12, 16, & 21 represented. Since the August Committee Meeting life has been busy we mailed out 576 Northern Light papers this last time. I continue to update FNV and the Northern Light mailing list. Area 35 has 2 new groups, 2 pending active, 8 pending inactive, 1 incomplete, 75 unknown and 514 active groups. I attended District 21's District meeting the same night as Mary. I attended the West Central Regional Forum in Bloomington. I also attended the Zonal Forum in Cold Spring. Both were an amazing experience. Thank you for allowing me this experience. Please continue to send me your updates, & those of you who have not had your elections. Please send me the new officer's information from your elections so I can update FNV and the Northern Light mailing list. If you would like your flyer inserted into the northern light 600 are needed and they can be given to me or mailed to The Cold Spring Record. You now need to send your check for \$75 to Area 35 Treasurer, to help defray postage. Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 35 as your Group Records Secretary. With the hectic life I have had this last month, this job and AA has kept me sober! Progress not perfection.

NORTHERN LIGHT – Jana M. - These 2 years have gone by fast. I am grateful I had the opportunity to be of service. This issue ended up being our biggest one yet. It ended up to be 36 pages with the Guideline for everyone and minutes from the Forum, AAmeeting locator Adhoc Committee and the Area Committee Meeting. The deadline for Reports & Article for the next Northern Light is November 1st.

District 16 - Gene V. - It is with gratitude that I serve as the District 16 DCM. District 16 holds its meeting the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM., United Methodist Church, 1701 S.E. 8th Ave., Grand Rapids, MN. At our District's September meeting we elected new officers and committee chairs for the years 2014 and 2015. District 16's new DCM will be Griffin M. Our last district meeting was October 2nd. Our District has new printed meeting directories. On October 3rd our District provided an AA Public Informational booth at the Itasca Community Connect. A lot of informational booklets and meeting directories were handed out. With a lot of feedback like "I really should go to those meetings again." Our District was able to reach out to some of those we had not seen for a while. Our District is working with Districts 8, 9, and 14 on a joint Service Workshop on October 26th. Our next District meeting will be November 6th.

District 21 - Irv R. - District 21 meets 2nd Monday each month at 7:00 pm. We continue with enthusiasm, to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Coming events include our Archives Workshop on October 12th, Halloween on November 2nd and Thanksgiving on November 24th, Bagley, MN and Debs, October 9th Potluck with Jim K speaking. The business at hand - District elections will be October 14th. With the potential to fill all chairs, there are actually multiple candidates for some positions.

GSR SHARING SESSION: 5 October 2013

My home-group hosts three meetings but we only have one GSR for our one group. Should we have a GSR for each meeting or only one for our single group? We used to have regular business meetings—and recently attempted to have a business meeting to discuss this idea—but a long-timer at our meeting has prevented us from meeting to talk about the issue. I'm not sure what we can do about any of it?

- Perhaps it is time to get a new chairperson, especially if the long-timer has been serving in that position.

- Consider the "Bleeding deacon" from "Tradition Two" in the 12x12 (p. 134-5): This brings us straight to the question "Does A.A. have a real leadership?" Most emphatically the answer is "Yes, notwithstanding the apparent lack of it." Let's turn again to the displaced founder and his friends. What becomes of them? As their grief and anxiety wear away, a subtle change begins. Ultimately, they divide into two classes known in A.A. slang as "elder statesmen" and "bleeding deacons." The elder statesman is the one who sees the wisdom of the group's decision, who holds no resentment over his reduced status, whose judgment, fortified by considerable experience, is sound, and who is willing to sit quietly on the sidelines patiently awaiting developments. The bleeding deacon is one who is just as surely convinced that the group cannot get along without him, who constantly connives for reelection to office, and who continues to be consumed with self-pity. A few hemorrhage so badly that—drained of all A.A. spirit and principal—they get drunk. At times the A.A. landscape seems to be littered with bleeding forms. Nearly every oldtimer in our society has gone through

this process in some degree. Happily, most of them survive and live to become elder statesmen. They become the real and permanent leadership of A.A. Theirs is the quiet opinion, the sure knowledge and humble example that resolve a crisis. When sorely perplexed, the group inevitably turns to them for advice. They become the voice of the group conscience; in fact, these are the true voice of Alcoholics Anonymous. They do not drive by mandate; they lead by example. This is the experience which has led us to the conclusion that our group conscience, well-advised by its elders, will be in the long run wiser than any single leader.

- Consider the section “What is an Informed A.A. Group Conscience?” from the pamphlet

The AA Group: The group conscience is the collective conscience of the group membership and thus represents substantial unanimity on an issue before definitive action is taken. This is achieved by the group members through the sharing of full information, individual points of view, and the practice of A.A. principles. To be fully informed requires a willingness to listen to minority opinions with an open mind. On sensitive issues, the group works slowly—discouraging formal motions until a clear sense of its collective view emerges. Placing principles before personalities, the membership is wary of dominant opinions. Its voice is heard when a well-informed group arrives at a decision. The result rests on more than a “yes” or “no” count—precisely because it is the spiritual expression of the group conscience. The term “informed group conscience” implies that pertinent information has been studied and all views have been heard before the group votes.

- Are there different service opportunities that are sponsored at each meeting? If so, and all the meetings are registered as one meeting with GSO, you may consider each meeting separate with its own business meeting and GSR.

- One function of the GSR position is to collect a group consciousness at the business meeting. The majority should rule how the group operates; no single member has the right to direct the will of the entire group. You should hold a business meeting regardless of what the long-timer says, have a discussion amongst the home-group members (including the long-timer) and vote.

- This is how new groups are formed: A pot of coffee and a resentment.

As a GSR, am I responsible for supplying literature to my group? [Question (and some answers) from the Spring 2013 Assembly]

- Elect a literature chair for your group and order literature directly from GSO.

- For groups that aren’t big enough to have someone hold a literature chair, the responsibility may fall under GSR duties if the conditions suggest that it is easiest for her to do the job.

- Go through the literature chair of your district; pooling your orders with other groups may help you eliminate additional expenses by processing a larger order per item, shipping costs, etc.

- If the group relies on the GSR to get literature from a district or area meeting, the group must reimburse the GSR.

- Another option is to send a second basket to cover literature costs, such as funds for Big Books that are given free to newcomers.

What do we do when no one will stand up for the GSR position when our term is over?

[Question (and some answers) from Spring 2013 Assembly]

- If no one runs for the position, emphatically and repeatedly announce the opening at the beginning of every meeting. This shows members that it is an important position and an issue that must be resolved. Announcing it this way keeps the position (and the need to fill it) in the minds of members.

- At my group, after making the announcement over a year, someone finally stood up when their life schedule changed. Perseverance works.

- Tell the group that you are finished; give members advanced notice, offer to train the next

GSR, inform them the importance of having someone serve as GSR.

- Sponsor members into the position.

- My group expected me to continue as GSR, but, when I told them I wasn’t, they asked why I wasn’t serving again. I told them I couldn’t because I would be serving at a district-level different position.

- If possible, elect an alternate GSR with the expectation that, when the GSR’s term is finished, the alternate will become the incoming GSR.

- Our group reverses the alternate GSR/GSR positions—the alternate GSR is the outgoing GSR. This gives the incoming GSR the security knowing that someone with experience is available to help show the ropes and cover district meetings.

- Get people to know the benefits of the GSR position. Service provides the opportunity for personal growth. Not to overstate it, but the GSR is the first protector of the program. GSRs may be the most important protectors—the guardians of the Traditions—but over the past 40 years, we’ve forgotten them. Without the Traditions, nothing works. When we pass motions at an assembly allowing the Area to promote itself using the Internet, we’re violating the 11th Tradition.

- Public service announcements are a violation of the 11th Tradition as well; AA is blowing

It’s own anonymity.

- The 11th Tradition is concerned with personal anonymity, not anonymity of the organization. Neither our online meeting locator nor our PSAs promote a specific person; they promote the meeting, the solution, the Program.

- Read long form of the 11th Tradition: Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.

DCM SHARING SESSION- Reported by Rolene:

1. Service being impossible for newcomers (Money/economic)

Locations cause GSR’s not to come

Not Sharing the rooms as much anymore

GSR’s get group to change

Having one day Assemblies

If group can’t support, GSR cannot go. Look at getting more contributions

Lot of trading jobs

Need more money - basket around twice, what are we willing to do to go?

2. Actions Booklet - Assembly sites/DCM

We went over new policy

DCM would like input on site selection

DCM being aware when an assembly is in their District and they are the hosting District

3. Anonymity Breaks and how districts deal with this issue

Covered in the General Service conference

Area Delegate handles Anonymity Breaks

We can't enforce, we can only suggest

Roberts Rules of Order Presentation – Bruce B. - Past Delegate Panel 44**OLD BUSINESS**

Minnesota Statewide Corrections Report given by Skip D., - Since the Joint Area 35/36 workshop the Committee meet on Sept.30th in Golden Valley. We went over the joint workshop minutes and to prioritize what we need to work on. Our next meeting will be on Nov. 13th in Maple Grove. It was mentioned that G.S.O. was going to watch what happens with Area 35/36 for this is groundbreaking (has not been done before) that two Areas are working so close together, said it is incredible. **Minnesota State Fair AA Booth Report** - Butch R. reported on the state fair - it was a huge success, we had a lot of people that went by the booth and a lot of people that viewed the booth. I had a great experience and I met a lot of folks who told me their stories. I hope that area 35 continues to be a part of that, please sign up for slots next year because you won't regret it. Thank you.

West Central Regional Forum Report - Jim K. gave this report. There were over 571 and 375 new time attendee's. It was a great opportunity - Andrew W. chaired the event. There was a lot of information regarding finances. The fact of the matter is that most groups don't participate to the Region that they belong too. Most groups in Northern Minnesota don't make contributions to their own Area or District. It's important for the groups to see where their contributions are going to and what they are being used for. You might want to consider sending a thank you note to the groups who contribute Grapevine contributions are given to the Grapevine by subscribing to the Grapevine - so the way to support The Grapevine is to subscribe to the Grapevine. Consider purchasing a subscription for your group, your local jail, a friend's birthday or your own birthday. Also, there is a current practice in place when we order literature regarding the shipping and handling - that puts a burden on the little groups. We know that we can get our literature from our Area Literature Chair - The Literature person becomes the supply and demand person and it's questionable if that's the best way to use the Area Literature Chair. I would suggest that you take back to your Districts and AA Groups the idea of writing the GSO about the high cost of shipping and handling for smaller orders and what that means to your Groups and District. GSO will read your letters and respond. They want to know what you are thinking. We can also draft a letter as a body to GSO and we can do that in December at the December Committee meeting regarding the Shipping and Handling costs for Big Book Literature. Please go back and talk to your groups and find out what they are thinking and we'll bring this topic up again in December. We will go ahead and add this to New Business and add the discussion about shipping and handling costs at our next Committee meeting. Thank You.

Area 35/36 Workshop Report - If you had a chance to look at your Northern Light, the minutes were in there - Missy, the Area 36 Secretary recorded the minutes and they were written up nicely. There were 71 in attendance. The next Area Chair might want to consider setting this up during the Fall or the Winter. Summer is a bad time of year for Area 35 participation, people are busy in the summer and we had a lighter attendance from our Area. Take a look at the evaluations and read them, they were good, and the presentations were very good as well. Thanks to those who attended.

January Workshop 2014 Report - Michael (Jake) J. stated that the Winter Workshop is in the works and I will be talking to the DCM's this weekend about what they are going to present at the Workshop. The Workshop will be held in Moorhead, Minnesota January 18th and 19th. The flyers are out and the agenda is set up. Be prepared to say yes when you are asked to present. Andrew W. will be there and will speak to the folks who attend the workshop.

Spring Assembly 2014 - The Spring Assembly will be at the Holiday Inn in Duluth. It will be held on April 5th and 6th, 2014.

AA Meeting Locator Presentation/Proposal –Bob B. Area 35 Webmaster - Bob B., after a review of the history of the aaminnesota.org and the aameetinglocatore.org sites, made the following motion:

Motion - Make the temporary aaminnesota.org site the approved aameetinglocator.org web site.

This motion was seconded and discussion followed. Myron called the question and the motion was voted on. Majority of the Assembly was in favor, one voted no, no minority discussion followed **so the motion passed.**

Motion - Budget \$240 per year which now funds aameetinglocator to fund the new web site.

This motion was made and seconded and discussion continued. **Vote was taken and the motion passed with no one opposed.**

Motion - made a two year temporary position to support AAMeetinglocator.org. as a technical - start up position. This motion failed.

Motion that Bob become the Webmaster for the 2014 - 2015 rotation. Motion was made and seconded and discussion continued... Motion was voted on and failed.

Motion was made that we create a 2 year temporary position to support the website, motion amended to make it a non-voting position. It was voted on and this motion passed as written.

Bob did recommend that it would be wise to not allow other Regions or Areas to join our WEB site for a year until Bob get's the bugs worked out. We have not included other Area's before, so we don't need to include them now. This concluded Bob B.'s presentation.

NEW BUSINESS:

After much discussion regarding Shipping and Handling costs, **a motion was made for Area 35 to draft a letter to GSO in light of the current Shipping costs causing hardships to small groups and giving breaks to larger organizations making it unfair and unreasonable for the small AA groups who would like to purchase literature but have a small budget to purchase from.**

No discussion - Motion passed.

Jim K. will draft a letter to GSO from Area 35 and a copy of the letter will be at the next area committee meeting for review.

Day Two of Fall Assembly:

Those that can vote sit up front

Those that can't vote sit in the back of the hall

Only those that can vote have the ability to nominate prospective officers -

Elections for Area Officers (Delegate, Alt Delegate, Chair, Secretary and Treasurer)

Delegate:

Kelly D.	18	17	31	28
Michael (Jake) J.	34	42	55	57
Randy A.	5	2		
Roger R.	16	15		
Steve L.	13	10		

Alternate Delegate:

Kelly D.	49	58
Randy A.	10	3
Roger R.	13	15
Steve L.	12	11

Chairperson:

Mary H.	3	1			
Servando M.	10	4			
Steve L.	10	8			
Roger R.	21	33	44	47	52
Paul M.		7	2		
Jim S.	4	1			
Randy A.	7	3			
Sara K.	23	35	43	38	34 (Pulled out of the Hat)

Secretary:

Sandy H.	24	25	22
Roger R.	35	53	63
Rolene L.	14	7	
Sean D.	13	2	

Treasurer:

Randy A.	30	37	51	59
Rolene L.	15	12		
Sean D.		21	18	20 25
Neil F.	21	18	15	

Vote to Allow Incoming Chair to Select Standing Committee Chairs with approval at Dec Committee Meeting.

Motion made for the Area Chair to select committee members - Motion Passed

Kelly and Sara will consider and choose interested parties - please let them know if you are interested in a committee chair position.

Ask It Basket (Past Delegates)

How are the Trustees selected? (Susie) There are 8 nominations in 8 Areas. The voting assembly is on the Wednesday Afternoon - 133 people. Quarantine off the West Central Delegates, 4 Trustee’s - 16 votes - all vote, which is the 3rd legacy. All Trusted Servants have recovering alcoholics and AA’s best interests at heart.

Would moving GSO out of New York save lots of money - how would we go about that? (Tim) that’s been tried before, we have a 10 year lease. The lease is reviewed every 10 years. Last time they got a good rate compared throughout the country. If you want, you can bring it forward as an agenda item - it was cost effective last time around.

What is your favorite Conference Approved literature? (Bill P.) The Big Book. Use Conference Approved literature at each meeting. A lot of meetings are based on the Big Book.

Just a sharing - Great to have all Past Delegates and Area Trustee’s at our Assembly - Great deal of satisfaction to return and see friends and see how the Area Assembly continues on (Tom A.)

Just wondering why that Grapevine Literature is so good. (Tim C.) The most fun I’ve had in AA - Grapevine literature chair - most stories from ordinary drunks like us. It was the only meeting in print and it’s used for the rural area’s meetings for a person who can’t drive to a regular AA meeting.

Why do they update conference approved literature? (Jon C.) I’m not sure that I have a lot to say about GSO. Not happy about the cost of “Handling” for the smaller groups.

How have you used the book “As Bill Sees it?” (Bill P.) Every group is autonomous. It’s important to use conference approved literature, though.

How can Area 35 add Special Needs Committee to it Roster of Committee’s? Add a motion - this type of thing comes up from the groups to the District to the Area. the usual method of making decisions at the Area Level.

Any Comments on reviewing a way to reenergize a group? Good Sponsorship - Sponsor into service - newer folks always are the most excited. What you don’t want are the same people making all of the decisions. New input is healthy.

Is it wise to put our group service numbers on the web pages? (Tom A.) Group service number is like a serial number. Being just a number is not a problem with anonymity. The number is almost better than a name, a group name or a person's name.

The issue of shipping charges and sending a letter from Area 35 addressed to GSO - would it be great if groups and districts wrote the letters as well? (Bob J.) If groups and districts are concerned, yes, they should write a letter to GSO with their concerns. If a group of voices come up - they would consider the issue at GSO.

Can a person who served for DCM - can they serve again if others are running? (Charlie C.) If others are willing to serve, it's strongly recommended that you serve 1 rotation and let someone new who wants to serve do this.

Are there actions we might take to get District 17 back into service? (Bill J.) Yes, we can. District and Area Officers can plan an important role. Go to the District meeting, gather up representatives from their groups and see if they can get a DCM elected. Bill and revived a district - it does work.

Why does the Archivist keep doing Archives - Why doesn't this position rotate? (Bruce B.)

Archives position was created because we felt we should have an addition to the Archive Committee to take care of all the "stuff".

Which Book is a great resource to learn about the History of the Fellowship? (Scott J.) Alcoholics Anonymous has lots of history in its introduction. AA Comes of Age, Dr Bob and the Good Old Timers and Pass it On are all good history books.

What is the best way to approach a group or individual that does not respect our 5th Tradition? (Tim C.) Share our own experience strength and hope. People who come to AA who have a drug history...well that's a tough one, because AA might help them. It's not our place to judge a dual addiction. The best thing we can do is help them get where they need to be to get healthy. (Bill J.) The best way to approach a group that doesn't respect the 5th Tradition - primary purpose - we need to follow the traditions, period.

Is each meeting supposed to have a GSR? (Bill B.) Let's say there are 2 meetings meeting on the same night and they have one GSR, one treasurer, one secretary... Groups are autonomous. Leadership grows out of responsibilities taken on at a group level. This would mean there would be fewer opportunities for members to learn responsibilities at a group level. Not sure if this is good or bad, it's for the groups to decide.

Understanding Anonymity - (Charlie C.) - Is anonymity broken when things are discussed within the family of AA? No - look at our 12 X 12 and pamphlet understanding anonymity - let your Doctor know that you are an Alcoholic - You give your last name at a closed AA Meeting, at an open meeting you give your first name only. But how will others be able to call you if they don't know your last name.

Why are committee members chosen by the Chairperson? (Tom A.) Before 1985 they were voted in, but it took such a long time, and a long election, so in 1987 it was voted at the Area Assembly that Area Chair chooses the committee. They have a large pool of people to choose from. There is a lot of work that goes on in the selection process and they are selected based on their qualities.

Is it possible to be "too" welcoming to the First Time AA person? (Bill P.) I suppose being too welcoming could frighten a new person or intimidate them. On the other hand, not welcoming them at all could have the same effect. It is definitely scary to attend your first AA meeting.

I attend several AA meetings - so am I only supposed to attend one business meeting? (Charlie C.) - One Person - One Vote - One Group. You can attend other business meetings, but you should only vote at your home group business meeting. You can have a voice at other business meetings, but not a vote, if it is not your home group.

If a group is not registered with GSO, they have no GSR, can the group vote at Assemblies? (Charlie C.) Yes, they can vote.

Our Literature Chair has Language of the Heart and other good books - Take a book home with you - these books will answer your questions about Traditions.

Can we "over welcome" a person? (Tim C.) The new person is the most important person in the room. (Scott J.) Any welcome was frightening to me - I wanted to be left alone.

When you went to New York - What happened that you didn't expect? (Jon C.) Area 35 sends you prepared, go through all the agenda items with the Assembly, Services Conference with other regions. I couldn't believe some of the Delegates who came. They were completely unprepared and baffled, not just one or two of them, but many of them. When the Assembly was almost over, there were books left and we could take any of the books we wanted. The Southerner's picked up everything but there was one book left. It was an Agnostic Pamphlet and Spiritual Awakening which was the only book left.

If the La Vina keeps losing money, why continue printing it? The Lavina gets passed around and read 3-4 times for one issue. It's the Spirit of carrying the message. It's funding is a service of the Fellowship and that's been the precedent since it was first printed.

Calendar of Events:

Area Committee Meeting in Aitkin, MN - Sunday, December 1, 2013 - 9:00 to 3:00

Area 35 January Workshop - Moorhead Holiday Inn - January 18th and 19th, 2014

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

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

District 8-9-14 & 16 Service Workshop - "Unity and Responsibility" Oct 26th, 2013, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia MN

St. Cloud Roundup - River Edge Convention Center, St. Cloud, MN Oct 25-27, 2013

Founders Day Weekend LXXIII, Nov 29th, 30th & 31st, 2013, Doubletree Park Hotel, St Louis Park, MN

Fall Assembly Adjourned

2013 – AREA 35 SCHEDULE

You can find out more about events on area35.org

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

Area 35 Fall Assembly - October 4th & 5th 2014
Sawmill Inn
2301 Pokegama Ave
Grand Rapids, MN
218-326-8501

38th Annual Area 35 Service Workshop
January 18th & 19th, 2014
Days Inn
600 30th Avenue South
Moorehead, MN 56560

Area 35 Spring Assembly - April 5th & 6th, 2014
Holiday Inn
200 West 1st St.
Duluth, MN

November 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
U.S. Federal Holidays are Red					1	2
Daylight Saving Ends						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	Veterans Day 11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	Thanksgiving Hanukkah 28	29	30

December 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	Winter Begins 21
22	23	24	Christmas 25	Boxing Day Kwanzaa 26	27	28
29	30	31				U.S. Federal Holidays are Red

Upcoming Events in Areas 35 & 36

Note: Area 35 events take precedence!

District 7 Hosts: GSR School
6:00 PM Thursday, December 12, 2013
Chili Pot Luck & Ice Cream Social
First Congregational Church
415 Juniper Street
Brainerd, 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>AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETING DECEMBER 1, 2013 AGENDA</div> <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 to Agenda</div><div>Approve June Committee Minutes</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>COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS</div> <div><div>CPC - Roger R.</div><div>District 11 - Bill C.</div><div>District 18 - Neil R.</div><div>District 14 - DebA.</div><div>GRAPEVINE - Carey A.</div><div>District 4 - Jim T.</div><div>District 15 - Pete B.</div><div>WEBMASTER - Robert (Bob) B.</div><div>ARCHIVES - Antonette F.</div><div>District 2 - Michael H.</div><div>District 12 - Servando M.</div><div>ARCHIVIST - Brad I.</div><div>LITURATURE - Sean D.</div><div>District 13 - Scott B.</div><div>District 5 - Heidi R.</div><div>TREATMENT - Randy A.</div><div>District 1 - Irene J.</div><div>District 7 - Neil F.</div><div>PI - Robert (Butch) R.</div><div>District 3 - Jim S.</div><div>District 6 - David A.</div><div>GROUP RECORDS - Sandy H.</div><div>NORTHERN LIGHT - Jana M.</div><div>District 21 - Irv R.</div><div>District 16 - Gene V.</div><div>CORRECTIONS - Skip D.</div><div>District 8 - Rolene L.</div><div>District 9 - John F.</div></div> <div>12:00 P.M. Lunch</div> <div>12:45 P.M. Reconvene</div> <div>OLD BUSINESS</div> <div><div>Financial Oversight Committee Report</div><div>Statewide Corrections Committee Report</div></div> <div>NEW BUSINESS</div> <div><div>February Committee Meeting</div><div>Guidelines for Web Technology Position</div><div>Approval of incoming 2014-2015 Action Committee Chairs</div><div>Drawing of DCM’s to serve on Area Action Committees for 2014-2015</div><div>Budget deadline for incoming Officers and Chairs</div><div>Calendar of Events</div><div>Adjourn</div></div>	<div>38th ANNUAL AREA 35 SERVICE WORKSHOP “Communicating Our Legacies-Vital in a Changing World” January 18th/19th, 2014 Days Inn - Moorehead, Mn</div> <div>Saturday, January 18, 2014</div> <div><div>8:00 Registration</div><div>9:15 Opening and Announcements</div><div>9:30 Meet your Area Officers and Committee Chairs</div><div>10:00 Recovery, Unity and Service - Our Responsibility - District 13</div><div>10:50 Break</div><div>11:00 Inventory - A Guiding Tool to Our Future - District 5</div><div>11:50 Lunch</div><div>1:15 Home Group - Purpose, Importance and Membership - District 8</div><div>2:00 Break</div><div>2:10 Participating in Our Common Welfare through Contributions - District 7</div><div>3:00 Tradition 3- Are you an AA Member? - District 12</div><div>3:50 Break</div><div>4:00 Sharing Session-Inventory Questions from last year-Trustee Andrew W.</div><div>5:00 Dinner on your own</div><div>6:00 GSR (sharing session)/DCM (orientation)</div><div>8:00 Open Speaker Meeting-Andrew Ware- West Central Regional Trustee</div></div> <div>Sunday January 19, 2013</div> <div><div>7:00 Big Book Closed AA Meeting</div><div>8:30 Does our structure allow each member to feel they are important in carrying our message? - District 2</div><div>9:20 Passing it on through Sponsorship - District 11</div><div>10:00 Break</div><div>10:10 Fellowship vs Meetings - What’s the difference? - District 14</div><div>11:00 Ask-it-Basket/Past Delegates present</div><div>11:30 Adjourn</div></div>
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