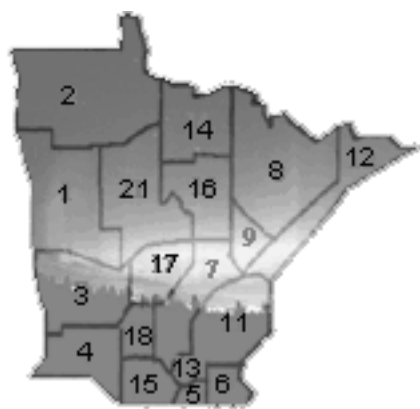


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Deadline for the next
Northern Light is
November 1st, 2013

This is YOUR Newsletter.

Please send your questions or comments for publication to
Jana M. at NorthernLight@area35.org

Please bring extra copies to share with your group!

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

AREA 35 COMMITTEE 2013

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IRV R.
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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!

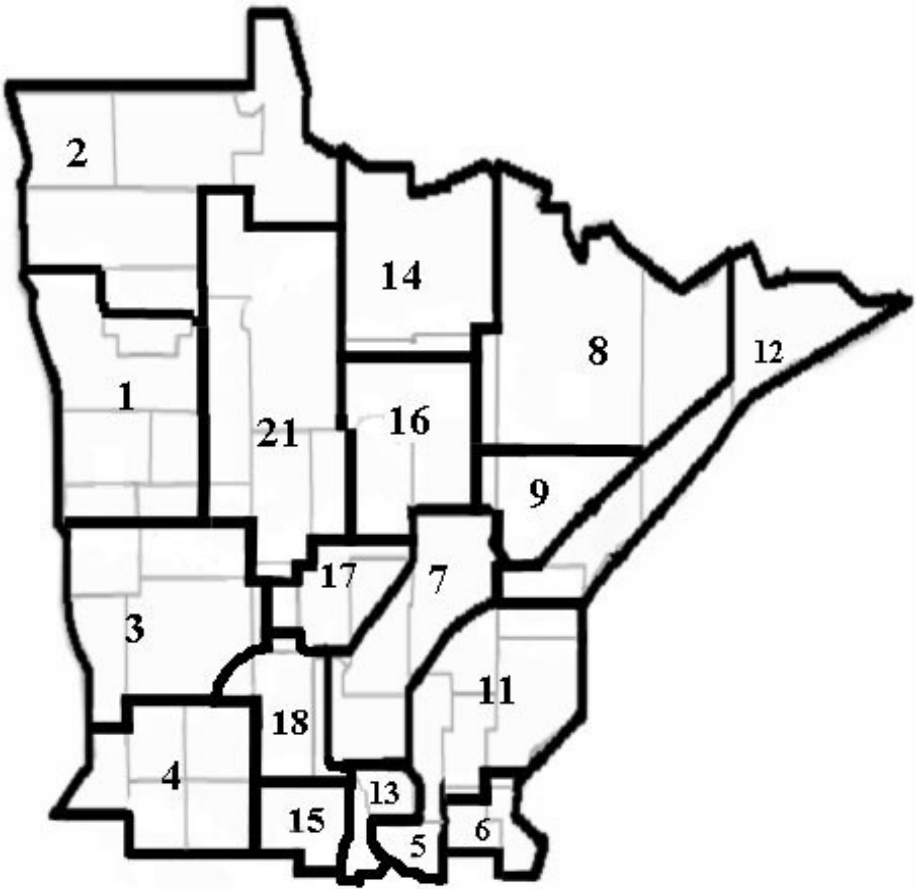
OUR PAST DELEGATES

| | | | |
|--|------------------|--|------------------|
| 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, Mahnomen, Naytahwaush, Red Lake Falls, Twin Valley, Waubun,
- District 2** - Badger, Baudette, Grygla, Hallock, Halma, Middle River, Rainy River (Ontario, Canada), Roseau, Stephen, Thief River Falls, Warren, Warroad, Williams
- District 16** - Bowstring, Boy River, Cohasset, Deer River, 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

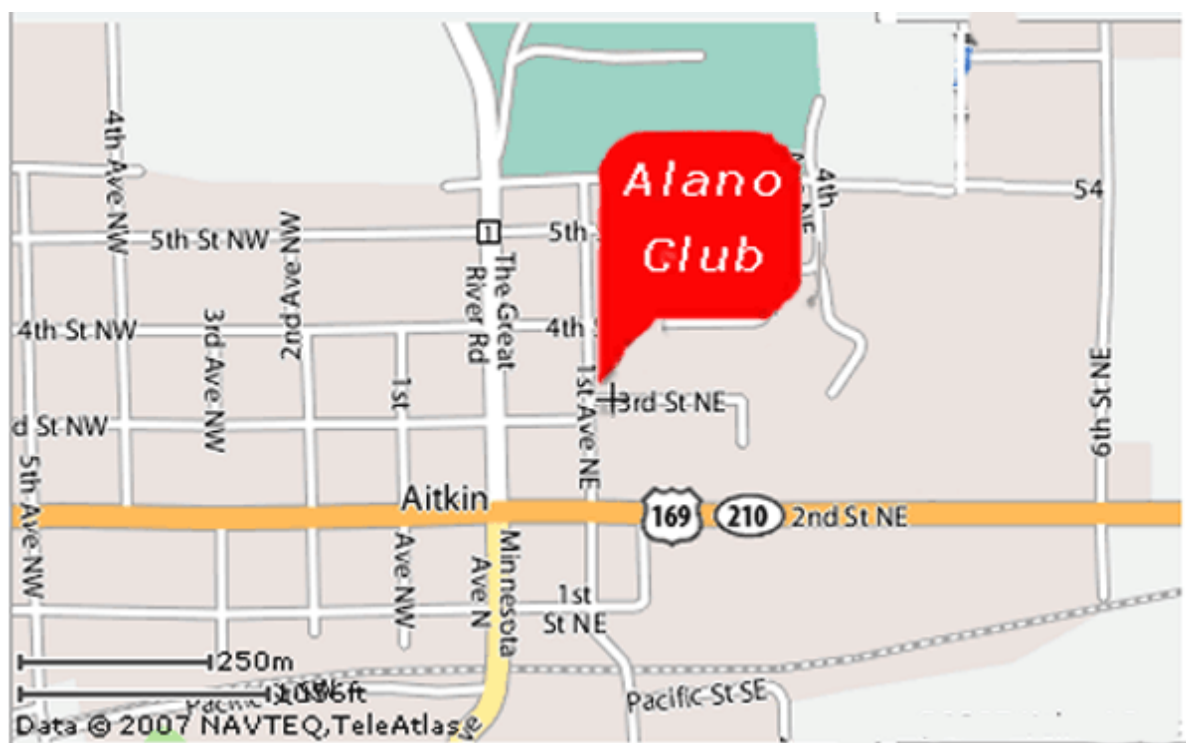
Inclement Weather Procedure For Area 35 Events

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 members of Area 35,

I hope you are all enjoying a sober and meaningful summer. I was reminded in a reflection time this past week of the importance of our own sobriety in how it bares “witness to those we would help...” I hope that many of you are allowing others to benefit from the gift of your sobriety by taking the time to share and pass the message on to them.

I attend the Area 35/36 Joint workshop in St. Cloud and greatly enjoyed the experience. The information shared by each committee was a wonderful testament as to why it is important to work together between areas when carrying our message. The meeting locator work done by Bob B., our current webmaster, was also wonderful to see and is sure to be a much needed and used resource for those trying to contact AA.

Thanks to all who attended the Aitkin Committee Meeting in August and for your continued work in the Area. I also want to thank those individuals who are willing to stand for delegate this next rotation and continue to serve Area 35.

I will be attending the West Central Regional Forum the first weekend in September and am looking forward to the event. Concerns that have been noted by the area include increased shipping costs and decision to no longer follow the conference advisory action of printing our directories. These concerns will be brought up at the Forum and hopefully it allows a good venue to openly discuss some of the ways we may work together to best meet the needs of alcoholics in our region. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Finally, on a personal note, I want to thank you for the opportunity to celebrate another year of sobriety. I say this only as a way to express my gratitude for this new way of life that you have shown me. I am sober today through God's grace and the gift that I receive of being sober is lost if I do not take the time to pass it on and work with others. Thanks again for all your work in your groups, districts, and throughout Area 35.

Yours in service,

Jim K.
Area 35 Delegate

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

Hi everyone it has been just a short time since the area committee meeting and I do not have much to report. I attended the KIS weekend and enjoyed the speakers and spending time with friends. It's always neat to see how many people involved in service show up at all these fellowship events along with their service commitments. I know from my experience that those of us that are blessed to serve enjoy all aspects of the fellowship. I recently enjoyed some time with a friend met in this fellowship for his 80th birthday. A past delegate from Canada was down visiting and we got to share some thoughts on AA and its future. I love talking with people that have AA at heart. We have enjoyed the good and bad in life. Now is the time to reap the harvest by serving our God and enjoying the fellowship of AA.

Yours in love and service,

Michael (Jake) J.
Area 35 Alternate Delegate

AREA CHAIR'S REPORT

Greetings Area 35,

Hope you all enjoyed your end to summer and are looking forward to some cooler weather. This time of year brings us to our Fall Assembly which is October 5-6th in Detroit Lakes at the Holiday Inn. It is hard to believe that we are coming to an end of another two year rotation and we will be electing our new Area Officers for the 2014-2015 term there. Another highlight of that weekend will be a presentation on Saturday night from one of our past Delegates Bruce B. on Roberts Rules of Order. Our Fall Assembly will be a great time of learning, business and of course wonderful fellowship together, I look forward to seeing all of you there.

I had a wonderful relaxing weekend at Keep It Simple August 9-11th and got to spend some great fellowship with some of our fellow AA's from northern Minnesota. I would like to thank the committee that works so hard every

(continued on next page)

(Area Chair report continued)

year to make this an enjoyable weekend for all of us. I was also out at the Minnesota State Fair on Saturday August 24th. The heat was unbearable which I believe kept many away this year but we still enjoyed those that stopped by the AA both that night. I like to thank all the volunteers from Area 35 that gave of their time in the heat that weekend to be there and carry our message of hope.

Next weekend I will be attending our West Central Regional Forum in Bloomington, Minnesota. I always enjoy attending these Forums because it is a world of information on what is going on in Alcoholics Anonymous and a great opportunity to get to know those from our General Service Office. Us Area Officers will be presenting at a Zonal Forum on Saturday, September 14th in Cold Springs from 12:00-4:00 pm in Zone II. I truly enjoy the time we get to go out and spend time with you within each of your Zones. Our Zonal Forums are great time to bring individuals that may be interested in service or would like to know more about what we do in Area 35.

Grateful to be of service,

Kelly D.
Area 35 Chair

AREA 35/36 JOINT WORKSHOP MINUTES

Open and introductions at 12:30

Over view and Purpose: 3 things that came out of last year: corrections cooperation, AA meeting locator and exchanging the Area newsletters

Corrections Presentation: Mary M.:

Area 35/36 Joint committee: history is last year they got together at this function

- Communicate and cooperate with each other to reach professionals in corrections.
- Prisons are state facilities but spread into two AA areas. That is a unique situation.
- 11 Prisons total: 5 in Area 36 and 6 in Area 35.
- We were invited to a transitional fair at the Federal site in Rochester. Waseca women's needs meetings.
- We can provide AA literature, coordinate meetings in facilities, go to the transition fairs at the facilities once a year at each. This is when the ones that is close to release come and make connections with POs, Case managers and us. We sign them up with the contact program, where they can make connections with local AA members where they are going. When we do the transition fairs we find that these are helpful and both Areas need to attend these.
- We have been asked to come into facilities to explain to AA inmates how to get contacted to the outside AA world.
- We give AAI talks to offenders and professionals.
- There is one DOC that wants consistency.
- Some of the challenges: AA literature to the offenders, fulfilling AA meeting requests, finding contacts on the outside, delivering a consistent message to professionals, navigating DOC system, having access to data base for both areas, (much better now), all offenders start at St. Cloud but don't stay so its high need for literature.
- Area 35 there are about 3200 offenders - Area 36 around 6000.
- Offender requests: area35 – 72 need contacts
- Area 36: 215 requests for contacts.
- They were released to area 35: 25 % and area 36 were 75% of released.
- A lot of the requests for literature falls on 2 districts in 35.
- Solutions would be: those two district correction chairs got to transition fairs, joint committee for 35/36, and continuing to share information with each other.
- Having a corrections workshop in Area 36. A great speaker involved in the Corrections field (non alcoholic).
- Questions: Districts carrying the biggest weight for literature requests? Proposal could be: couldn't 35/36 agree to distribute funds to get literature out? It is possible.
- What is the population difference for memberships in 35/36 to be able to be of service in corrections between the areas? Not sure. You would have to look at where those offenders are being released. We use Tradition 4: the areas are autonomous; we need to respect each others way of doing this. Tradition 7 (self support).
- District 11 doesn't seem to have anything in it as far as groups. There are about 2000 registered groups in Minnesota: 75% in Southern and 25 % in Northern Minnesota.
- Just because you live in one Area doesn't mean you cant go into a facility in the other Area.
- Sherburne County almost lost its opportunity to do meetings because of the low participation from outside AA members doing meetings.
- Huge wait for the GSO contact problems.
- When you fill in a request to take meetings into a jail; be honest about everything because it will come up in the background check! Get your rap sheet if necessary!!
- This is groundbreaking: having two areas cooperating with one another help in corrections!!
- Bridging the Gap will help with some ideas.
- The numbers you are seeing, aren't just numbers they are people.
- This power point is superb; do you have copies of it for us to use at districts? Mary will email to whoever wants one.
- We need to find a way to fund this. The pink can plan is not being talked about enough.
- We have two groups in area 35 that has the pink can plan. They are the two that we get the most contributions from for literature for jail and institutions.
- St. Cloud goes through two cases of big books a week. The need is high for them.

(continued on next page)

(Joint workshop minutes continued)

- Can't we put some kind of a profile together of the prison qualifications of outside members who want to take meetings into the facilities? Yes that maybe possible.

Web Meeting Locator Presentation: Bob:

- WEB MEETING LOCATOR: Bob (webmaster area 35): They have an Ad Hoc committee with members from both areas. They reviewed the current locator, advanced search page was removed.
- Talked about how large the project was: too big for volunteers so they took bids of professionals. Didn't work, so they got Area 41's software.
- They reviewed the software: didn't meet our needs.
- So today we are talking about what is next?
- We got to look at the newly designed meeting locator. The main purpose for the locator is to find meetings: you can pick city, day, times....
- He did an example search for us: you can print from it, view a map of the meetings you find.
- Questions on web presentation:
 1. I used it the other day and found a group within minutes, it is a great tool.
 2. How many hours do you have in programming? 300 hours since March.
 3. Is it available to members now? Yes.
 4. We are planning on putting on its original URL? That is the plan eventually, still some issues with addresses to iron out.
 5. When you click on the name of the group it will bring up additional info on the group.
 6. What do you do with a group that disbands? We don't do anything, this is based off of the Group Records data base.
 7. When it gets updated, is it pretty time consuming? It isn't my time its computer time. No manual updating its done with a press of a button then I let it run.
 8. Because this is coming from Group Records info, we need to make sure we are updating group records regularly.
 9. Could we put AA Minnesota.org for better search? We want it to include other states eventually.
 10. We could do that just to have better search for Minnesotans though right? WE could do both and it would work well.
 11. It would be nice to give professional one URL address for convenience.
 12. Having correct addresses that aren't descriptive but literal it would be the best. (old dress shop, next to the police shop).
 13. It will be very important to work with group records. They are going to have their work ahead of them.
 14. Will this work for Wisconsin? No, it is for Minnesota at this time.

Support Plan for this is right now we are using volunteers. We need to confirm and test the addresses and correct names. Do we want to go forward with adding other states.

Treatment Presentation: Randy:

- In Area 35 we area on our second term. We had some bridging the gap requests from Minneapolis Intergroup. We really appreciate their help with that.
- Been in contact with Sooze H., we look forward to cooperating with each other. We make referrals to GSO info desk. Area 36 will be doing a Treatment Workshop this fall. Last year we had a combined committee meeting here. We discussed the need for long term contacts. We talked about having a Corrections, Treatment, and CPC professional luncheon.
- To get on the professionals agenda at any of their meetings you really need to make contact way early.
- How to talk about singleness of purpose in treatment centers. There have been some workshops this last year.
- We will be having a treatment workshop in September in Area 35. Area 36 is welcomed to attend.
- Randy gave some suggestions of how to put on a workshop and how to attract members to it.
- Puts out at the workshop certain guidelines on what types of meetings to take into treatment centers.

PI Presentation: Val:

- Area 35/36 will be having a booth at the Minnesota State Fair in the Education building. Area 35 has two days and Area 36 has the rest. All shifts for the Fair are covered.
- Have our Areas talked about the financial support of the State Fair? Area 35 gives 500 dollars. Total budget is 2800.00.
- If you haven't done it you should because it is a great experience.
- Is there training or a sobriety requirement to sit in the booth? There is a list of guidelines that is sent to the day captains regarding this.
- I have gone to the fair for decades; I have seen it move around. Are there any talks about making the booth a little more appealing? It is something we could discuss in the break out session.

Cooperation with the Professional Community/Remote Communities: Carla N.

- MN Age Disabilities Conference invited AA to have a booth there. There were 600 to 800 professionals that cater to all types of disabilities. Being that it was in Duluth, Carla gave Area 36 CPC Chair a call to work together on it. It was in June.
- They decided to do it together, even though they hadn't worked together before. It is a bi-annual event, so they really wanted to take the opportunity. It is state wide.
- Attending the booth gave them a great opportunity to contact special services professionals. They organized and staffed the booth with inventorying and ordering literature. They had a table top display. Carla set up on Sunday worked it on Monday and then some volunteers came. The idea of having Past Delegates who could handle the questions was something they used. They were very willing to help. They wanted the strong AA knowledge of concepts and Traditions.
- They had a volunteer schedule with the two of them being day captains. He thanked the volunteers who were there to help man the booth.
- The results of the booth were: as of Monday there were 3000 people were registered. We both have the vendor booklets that they can use to follow up on. One of the day captains received a free lunch, where she represented AA at a table with 10 professionals who she gave information to. She gave all professionals the Area Websites.
- Some wanted to know why Area 36 was involved when geographically in 35. She didn't think of it that way that should be more thought of in the future.
- They felt it was awesome being able to talk to roughly 300 people per day about AA.

Questions:

A volunteer talked about how it was a great thing!

We have a Governor's council on Aging; AA should have some representation on Aging.

(continued on next page)

*(Joint workshop minutes continued)***Area Officers:****Meeting Locator:**

- We need to stay focused on a state wide meeting locator.
- Just because the capabilities are there to go region wide, doesn't mean we need to do it now.

Financial Joint Adventures:

- We would like to have a joint finance committee to talk about joint ventures, instead of just splitting half the costs afterwards. It could consist of Area Chairs, treasurers, etc.

Volume of Responsibilities:

- Are we making the jobs too big for just any AA member to do?
- Careful thought and prayer should be used when deciding to stand for a position.

Guideline Updating:

- How do we best update the guidelines?
- They are just guidelines. They aren't used for job performance reviews.

Newsletter/Web/Group Records:

- Software issue for Newsletter: tech soup, big developers donate their software.
- Group record: we need to make sure our info is solid.
- Group Records: how do we make changes? Maybe outsourced (8500, 3200).
- Web positions are technical
- The ad hoc committee for 35 is going to discuss a support plan for web.
- For the new locator we need good information. Verify all info (address, name of location, time, day etc...)
- DCMs and Group Records need to double check.
- The newsletter has unknown and merged meetings.
- District one had 5 or 6 unknown groups that they are starting to verify.

Literature/Grapevine:

- How do you do the job of literature job? Do you do inventory, educate groups on how to order?
- They get all of their literature from the area at ACM. Groups do it differently, some purchase from the Alano, Intergroups and Area. Maybe they should propose a budget for the District, and place orders for the groups. The shipping and handling on orders under 500.00 isn't a huge deal.
- Online ordering
- Grapevine: how to use
- Do the grey pages still exist? They were essentially stories of non- alcoholics. Promote it by: passing them out. Maybe we should just let it die. The LA Vina was also discussed: it is still losing money!

Archives:

- Cooperation with each other: Both had displays at Gopher State.
- Display by both area for the WCRAASC.
- In May there will be a big book anniversary celebration where 35/36 will have a joint display.
- Possible 35/36 workshop in 2014. We want a committee made up of both areas and get something going.

PI/CPC/Remote Communities and Special Needs:

- What ways can we partner in events?
- The importance of today's meeting.
- Possible state Social Workers Conference together.
- We should put those events on the web site and calendars in the newsletters.
- How to follow up on the list of attendees from the conferences? Use the DCMs in those districts. Should the Areas give thank you letters to those contacts?
- Defined a State wide event to decide on what we should cooperate on. If it falls in a certain areas backyard they should take the lead.
- GSO will send an invitation to a certain Area to be involved, so it should be written into the guidelines that when we are notified of an event we should communicate that to the other areas chair.

Treatment:

- Read pages 4 and 5 from the workbook.
- Teens from treatment center attend their meeting regular and stay involved.
- Having an informational session with teen focus of a treatment center.
- How many treatment graduates stay sober? Are statistics kept? Very hard with the revolving door effect.
- Responsibilities of staying in contact with Minneapolis intergroup and getting contacts.
- Having some workshops in the fall.
- Had a three hour workshop last year with the chairs doing presentation.
- How do we get more people involved with treatment service work?
- Singleness of Purpose! It becomes more paramount and needs to be talked about all the time. Anonymity is very important.

Corrections:

- Are there correctional facilities being missed? The joint committee is new and trying to concentrate on prisons.
- How to let AA members know about corrections opportunities? Communication. Put it into the newsletters, a list of which groups are taking meetings into which facilities.
- Who do members talk to about service? Talk to the chair (district and Area)
- Financing literature into the facilities? It is being place on the Districts in the area. Let other groups know by putting on the websites, pink can plan, discuss in business meetings. Areas take it on instead of districts. Jointly 35/36 together funds it.
- How can Correctional facilities get a hold of AA?
On the website, business cards.
- How better to reach short term offenders? Taking meetings into the jails with directories, face to face by AA members on the outside.
- Temporary Contact program should be used for communication on outside.

(continued on next page)

*(Joint workshop minutes continued)***General Sharing:**

- I am in Area 36 I seldom see the Northern Light: please send them bulk mail to Minneapolis Intergroup. Not sure if that is possible. If you would like to receive one then see our group records to give them your address.
- Is it available on the web site? Yes it is on area35.org.
- Not only does it cost to mail them out, if it is an incorrect address it costs .55 to send it back.
- Should we go to the new meeting locator? I can't make a decision on that if I don't know the pros and cons of that.
- We do move forward but also we want to talk to our Areas and make a decision. This is not a decision making body.
- Can your committee make a proposal to take to each area to make a decision? Yes
- Each inmate goes through St. Cloud then goes to another facility. How can I as an AA member contribute to the District that is paying for the literature for that facility? Can there be a certain way to do that?
- The Grapevine is ours. The grey pages are controversial, they have nothing to do with AA, it is based on experiments. Why are they still there? They have been conference approved. When I came in I couldn't read the Big Book but I could the Grapevine. The grey pages confused me because they were impertinent. Then they disappeared, and back again. If we don't want them, we vote them out.
- I appreciate what Bob has done with the meeting locator, it is awesome!!
- AAMinnesota.org is online right now. It will not be maintained until approved by both areas.

Thank you to District 13 for their help setting up today**St. Paul round up Oct. 25, 26, 27, 2014****Area 36 Corrections Workshop is September 14th in Golden Valley, MN****Keep it Simple weekend in Evelyn August 9, 10, 11****West Central Regional Forum September 6 – 8 in Bloomington at Double Tree****Third Annual Block Party of 2218 in Minneapolis Saturday the 27th****Closed with the Responsibility Statement at 5:02 p.m.****AREA 35/36 WORKSHOP EVALUATIONS****JULY 20, 2013****71 IN ATTENDANCE****27 TOTAL RESPONSES****GSR'S – 6****HOW DID YOU LIKE THE WORKSHOP?**

- Good presentations, very informative.
- Great information, well organized. I will bring good stuff back to my District.
- OK.
- Good to see that we can make it work with less than perfect circumstances. Good job.
- Great information, great presentations. I find it very encouraging to see the hard work of our members in AA, 35/36 as a new GSR for a small group. This gives me a big boost in my program to give back!!!
- seemed insufficient, time & energy.

OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:

- More organization with the flow. Was extremely choppy, no flow. Have a microphone that works.
- Fix sound.
- Thank you everyone for all the hard work everyone has done to put the workshop together.
- Very obvious need for further workshop and “linking” of members to each are.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS – 8**HOW DID YOU LIKE THE WORKSHOP?**

- Very good, good presentations.
- I did.
- Great!! Very helpful to increase awareness of joint opportunities
- Very good, informative
- This was the second time I attended this workshop. Overall felt that the workshop was great. More collaboration between the 2 areas is wonderful. I know this at one time was held every 2 years. I like it being held every year, helps keep the energy going.
- I like the presentations in the beginning, do different committees each time but please make sure both area have chairs or alt's present this is 35/36 (joint). Maybe 2 presentations instead of 4.
- I liked the timing, location and length. Content is evolving.
- Enjoyed the format, flexibility with schedule worked well. Church easy to find.

OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:

- Need more committee members involved.
- More time on power points or presentations.
- Ask committee chairs ahead of time how long they need for their reports. Some are short, others needed more time. Really like the food options, nice to have more than sweets.
- Timer?
- Great food spread/choices. Who funded this?
- Split breakouts down farther, too many people. Less time for breakouts.
- Appreciated lunch options of sandwiches and water not just coffee. I appreciate that communication between our two areas has improved, building on last years rotation

OTHER - 3**HOW DID YOU LIKE THE WORKSHOP?**

- I learned that I need to go to more meetings to review the help I need to work in AA. This meeting taught how to start.
- Loved it! Awesome venue to share information and cooperate!
- I absolutely loved it. I get to see how AA is trying to get out there, what our groups funds are doing.

(Joint workshop evaluations continued)

(continued on next page)

OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:

- Better sound system.
- I suggest making the workshop more known to members of AA. We can then get more people involved.

DCM's – 3

HOW DID YOU LIKE THE WORKSHOP

- Allowing more time for presentations would prevent us from thinking we were behind from the start. Good job catching back up.
- Good!!! Productive.
- Awesome, very informative.

OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:

- The room has a PA system built in, ask the church to use it.

OFFICERS – 7

HOW DID YOU LIKE THE WORKSHOP?

- Enjoyed the workshop. Not sure what more could be added. Time went quickly, food was great. Thanks for setting this up.
- Great second one attended. Great networking.
- Great.
- Presentations great! I like the workshop very much.
- Very good, first joint that I attended, good sharing.
- Great sharing of information. Love seeing and hearing about all the cooperation between A35 & A36. Good mix of presentations and discussion. Great location church is centrally located and a perfect venue for this event.
- Workshop was good. Need to communicate.

OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:

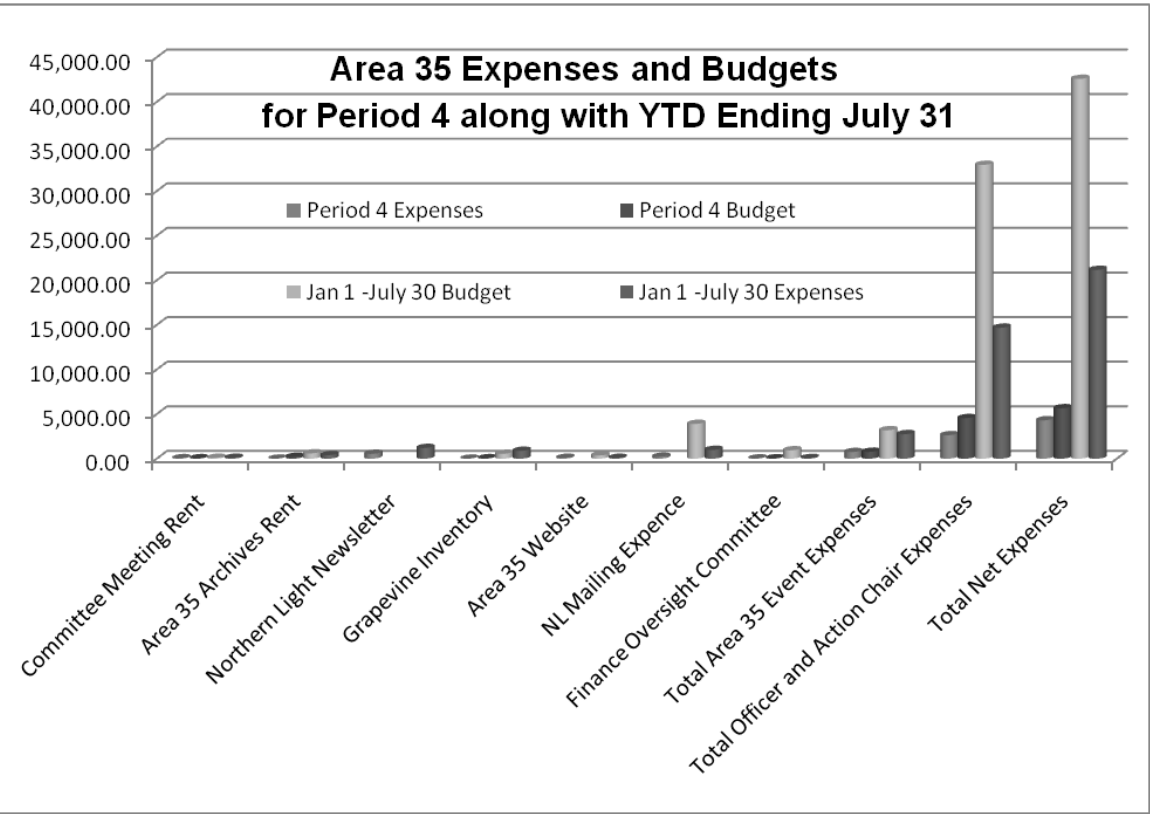
- Meet 2 times every year.
- Move out of summer time.
- Can we start at 9:00 am and end earlier in the day? Lunch was served anyway.
- Continue working on PA.
- Printed agenda for all participants, keep people on time during presentations, have greeters and designated coffee/food crew.
- Format is great.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Howdy every one. Did the August heat affect your serenity this summer? Now that fall is in the air, leaves are turning color and temperatures are falling. Which of course means the Area 35 fall assembly is just around the corner. This fall assembly is an election assembly and three positions will be taking nominations off the floor (Chair, Secretary and Treasurer). Now is the time to start asking people if they are interested and willing to stand for these positions before nominations on the floor begin.

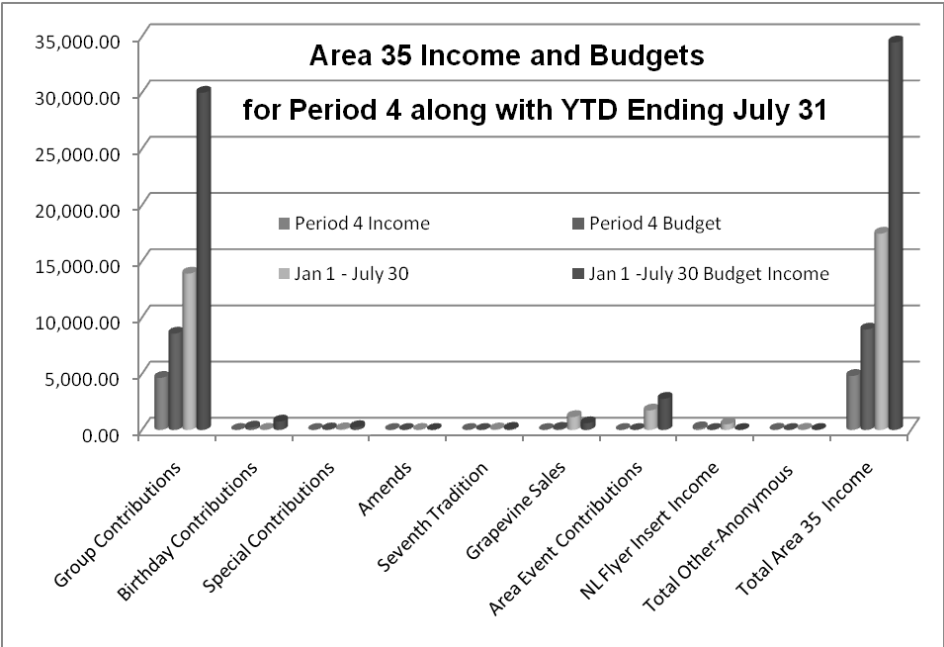
I attended the joint 35/36 workshop in which all the presentations were well planned and informative. The best part was getting together with Chris the Area 36 treasurer to discuss tips and tricks of the job.

So let’s get to the numbers. Our expenses are running 40% under budget for the year. Our income is also 47% under budget for the year. In other words we have had group contributions of \$17,605.04 and total expenses of \$19,548.96 so we have a \$1,943.92 short fall for the year. We are in great shape with year-to-date totals running reasonably flat so out net assets are basically running equal to what we started with for the year.



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(Treasurer’s report continued)



An interesting thing to see in the graphs is that two thirds (2/3) of all our expenses goes toward officer and action chair person expenses. Another thing to note in the graphs is just how much our actual expenses are under budget.

Remember we are no longer sending Northern Light flier insert checks to Sandy (Area Group Records Sec.). Flier insert checks are now to be made out to NMAA. Please send only the check to NMAA, PO Box 87, Biwabik, MN 55708 and make a note that it is for a flier insert. Remember to send the flier to where you have been sending them to. The Bulk mail permit has changed so please be sure to check with Sandy (AGRS) about your flier before sending them to her.

Most groups do a terrific job about giving the correct information to receive proper credit for their contributions. They give the group’s service number, the group’s correct name and the group’s district number on their contribution. Unfortunately some groups do not. If your group doesn’t know its service number, you can obtain it from Sandy, our Group Records Secretary. The USPS has dropped the address forwarding service so please use the new envelopes with the new correct treasurer’s address or go to our web site www.area35.org and get my current address.

One last thing is to look at the current group contribution report (which you can get from your DCM or contact me) and look to make sure the amounts for your group are correct.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Treasurer.

Humbly in service,
Steven L.
Area 35 Treasurer

SECRETARY’S REPORT

As your Area 35 Secretary I have a secret to share. I have taken minutes in many organizations over the years. I love the idea of recording meetings and decisions that are made, motions accepted and voted down. It’s a privilege to be the recorder of events. But my weakness (and secret) at this point in time is my lack of computer knowledge. I have always used the computer the same way one would use a typewriter. Yes, I admit that I still take some of the minutes by handwriting them on scraps of paper. I have learned to listen to the flash drive that Brad I. gives me after every meeting and I re-live the committee meeting or assembly all over again. I review what I’ve written and try to interpret what is said as accurately as I possibly can. I appreciate those who send me an email with their report before the meeting so I can cut and paste it right into the minutes. My learning curve has been uphill the past year and a half and that’s what we all need to do - move past our comfort zones into new positions. I am looking forward to attending the last Fall Assembly and Committee Meeting in 2013 as I complete my tenure as your recording secretary. I will help out the new secretary if he or she needs help and I am excited to see who will replace me.

Thank You for your support.

Mary S.
Area 35 Secretary

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WEBMASTER

Calendar:

When calendars were first put on web sites they were copies of their paper counterparts. Area 35 has one of these calendars on its web site. If I want an Area 35 event on my personal calendar I have to copy or enter that event on my calendar. Today’s personal calendars can pull data from multiple calendars. When I look at a calendar on my smart phone or PC I can see my work calendar, icalendar, and other calendars I choose to view at the same time.

Our web calendar software is out dated and no longer supported. This year I had to modify our calendar’s software to keep our calendar working on today web software. The time has come to replace our calendar software.

In October our WEB site will start using google calendar software. Our flyers will continue to be stored and viewed from our WEB site. Users viewing our Area 35 calendar will be able to have events on our calendar added to their own calendar.

Meetings:

Work is in progress to use the FNV database to seed the meeting on the WEB. This will eliminate the need to maintain two meeting databases. This will mean less work and less chance for errors. This job should be completed by the end of this year.

For those that like statics:

| Month | Unique visitors | Number of visits | Pages | Hits | Bandwidth |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Jan | 1,538 | 2,288 | 10,681 | 145,498 | 1.58 GB |
| Feb | 1,483 | 2,170 | 9,238 | 112,151 | 1.23 GB |
| Mar | 1,668 | 2,600 | 14,470 | 130,663 | 1.55 GB |
| Apr | 1,719 | 2,697 | 14,731 | 136,643 | 1.73 GB |
| May | 1,668 | 2,580 | 12,110 | 120,792 | 1.38 GB |
| June | 1,670 | 2,786 | 12,924 | 125,991 | 1.47 GB |
| July | 2,067 | 3,137 | 13,938 | 140,657 | 1.74 GB |
| August* *(27days) | 1851 | 2,854 | 14,124 | 137,165 | 1.55 GB |
| 2013 | 13,633 | 21,112 | 102,216 | 1,049,560 | 12.23 GB |

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

Bob B.
Area 35 Webmaster
admin@area35.org

aaMeetingLocator Ad-Hoc Committee
Report September 1, 2013

Please visit www.aaminnesota.org. This is the home of our replacement web site for aameetinglocator.org. At our Fall Assembly we will vote on supporting the new site. A mobile version is available for smart phones at the same location.

www.aaminnesota.org

At our Fall Assembly, October 4th & 5th, 2013 we will vote on:

- A. Using the WEB site for aameetinglocator.org
- B. Financial support for the new web site
- C. 2 year temporary support plan
- D. Allow other West Central Regional areas to join our WEB site

The complete proposals are attached to this report.

A. Using the WEB site for aameetinglocator.org

[aameetinglocator](http://aameetinglocator.org) is a joint project between Area 35 and 36. [aameetinglocator](http://aameetinglocator.org) is a WEB based tool, hosted on its own website, to find AA meetings in Minnesota. In July 2013, at our joint workshop, we reviewed a replacement for our current [aameetinglocator](http://aameetinglocator.org). Our [aameetinglocator](http://aameetinglocator.org) ad-hoc committee will propose a plan to use our new [aameetinglocator](http://aameetinglocator.org). The proposal will be presented at the Area 35 and Area 36 assemblies in October 2013. We will vote on accepting the new [aameetinglocator](http://aameetinglocator.org). Please review the proposed [aameetinglocator](http://aameetinglocator.org) at www.aaminnesota.org at your district and group business meeting. Attend the Area 35 fall assembly prepared to vote on a proposal to use the new [aameetinglocator](http://aameetinglocator.org).

B. Financial support for the new web site

The Area 35 webmaster’s budget include \$240 per year to support the current [aameetinglocator](http://aameetinglocator.org). The Area 35 assembly has authorized an annual payment of \$120 to Area 36 for support of the current [aameetinglocator](http://aameetinglocator.org). Here is a cost estimate for the new [aameetinglocator](http://aameetinglocator.org).

(continued on next page)

(Webmaster Adhoc report continued)

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Domain name aameetinglocator.org | \$20 per year |
| Private registration for above | \$10 per year |
| Domain Name aaminnesota.org | \$20 per year |
| Private registration for above | \$10 per year |
| Web hosting | \$100 per year |
| ----- | |
| Total | \$160 per year |
| Area 35 total | \$80 per year |
| Area 36 total | \$80 per year |
| (these are estimates) | |

C. 2 year temporary support plan

Support for the current aameetinglocator is provided by Mike S. Public Computing Services. The support is outside of our area service structure and is not a member of our aameetinglocator ad-hoc committee. Upgrades to our current aameetinglocator are beyond the capabilities of the current support.

If the updated aameetinglocator is approved it will need to be supported.

aameetinglocator is a customer/public facing website. It has been designed to provide meeting information to still suffering alcoholics, members of the professional community, and our AA membership. I feel that aameetinglocator needs to be supported by an active member of our area assembly. There are a number of ways to do this.

- Let our Webmaster support aameetinglocator
- Make the Ad-Hoc committee responsible for support
- Create a Technical Position to support aameetinglocator

We do not have experience to know what it will take to support a project the size of aameetinglocator. At our Fall Assembly in October, I would like to propose the following temporary position. Please review this proposal with your districts and groups so that they will be prepared to vote on this proposal at our Fall Assembly.

Proposal:

That Area 35 create and support a 2 year temporary, technical, non-voting position.
Requirements:

- Willingness to serve
- Technical Experience:
- PHP
- HTML
- MySQL

Expectations:

- Support new aameetinglocator
- Write code for aameetinglocator
- Design a lite version of aameetinglocator to run on smart phones
- Respond to all customer reported troubles
- Design and implement WEB pages for Area 35 as needed
- Determine the technical needs for Area 35 and propose a long term solution by the Spring Assembly 2015
- If a new position is created should it be rotating?
- Attend all Assemblies
- Attend all committee meetings
- None Voting position
- Member of the WEB, Northern Light, and Group Records committee
- Member of the Ad-Hoc aameetinglocator Committee
- Research and report on technical issues
- Support WEB Master, Group Records, and Northern Light
- Follow recommendations by the Area 35 assemblies. Following GSO’s website guidelines
- Attend Regional Forums and/or West Central Regional Conference where fully reimbursed and approved by area committee
- 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.
- Submit committee budget information as requested by the Area Treasurer to help in planning the area budget.
- 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 Northern Lights Area newsletter
- Keep accurate minutes of all meetings and distribute to Area 35 secretary in a timely manner

(continued on next page)

(Webmaster Adhoc report continued)

D. Allow other West Central Regional areas to join our WEB site

The new aameetinglocator was designed to support all areas of our West Central Region. We need to vote to allow other areas into aameetinglocator. Is this something we want to support?

Reference:

Past Area 35 votes on aameetinglocator. From our “Action Book”

XVIII. Webmaster & Group Records

04/06/03 Area Assembly The position of Webmaster was created. This position is fully funded and a voting member of the Assembly Position Guidelines will be created by the P.I. Committee.

10/7/07 Area Assembly Motion was made and seconded for Area 35/36 have a joint Web Venture (meeting locator) with \$200 and travel expenses for set up costs. Motion was amended to a \$200 cap and travel expenses for Set up costs. Motion carried. 2/24/08 Area Committee Area 35/36 Web Venture. There was discussion on whether we should compensate the web designer of the joint website for his time or accept his time as a gift of service. The cost was estimated at \$5,000. Straw Vote: to require that we reimburse/pay the AA \$5,000 for creating the website. Four in favor. Motion failed.

4/4-5/09 Area Assembly Discussion resumed regarding accepting the joint Area 35/36 web designers gift of service for the creation of the joint meeting locator which otherwise would total \$5,000.00. Vote to accept it as a gift of service: 49 for / 4 opposed. Minority spoke. Motion passed.

2/22/09 Area Committee Area 35/36 Joint Web Venture. At our last assembly we decided not to financially support the cost of setting up the new joint meeting locator, but we did want to support the endeavor by sending representatives from Area 35 to the meetings. As an Area, we have to decide if we want to be financially responsible for the hosting and support of the new joint website. It is an annual total cost of \$240, and our 1/2 of it will be \$120. This money would be used to cover the annual cost of hosting and supporting this website locator. The Group Records Chair will upload/update the data. The majority felt that this website will be a great resource, a good tool, and infinitely more user friendly, helpful, and accurate, as new people don't know about our invisible line dividing the state. Motion to spend \$120 for the meeting locator, majority in favor; 1 opposed. Motion passes. Minority spoke.

10/3/10 Area Assembly The Area discussed having non-registered groups added to the meeting schedule on the Area 35 Website. The current policy for Area 35 is to have only registered groups on the Area 35 website. No motion was made.

WEBMASTER Defined:

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

A **webmaster** (from web and master),^[1] also called a **web architect**, **web developer**, **site author**, or **website administrator**, is a person responsible for maintaining one or many websites. The duties of the webmaster may include ensuring that the web servers, hardware and software are operating correctly, designing the website, generating and revising web pages, A/B testing, replying to user comments, and examining traffic through the site. As a general rule, professional webmasters "must also be well-versed in Web transaction software, payment-processing software, and security software."^[2] Due to the RFC 822 requirement for establishing a "postmaster" email address for the single point of contact for the email administrator of a domain, the "webmaster" address and title were unofficially adopted by analogy for the website administrator.

Webmasters may be generalists with HTML expertise who manage most or all aspects of Web operations. Depending on the nature of the websites they manage, webmasters typically know scripting languages such as JavaScript, PHP and Perl. They may also be required to know how to configure web servers such as Apache HTTP Server (Apache) or Internet Information Services (IIS) and be a server administrator. Further, webmasters may also act as website designers on smaller-scale sites.^[3]

"webmaster, *n.*". *Oxford English Dictionary* (draft entry ed.). Oxford University Press. December 2008.
Oz, Effy (2008), *Management Information Systems*, Cengage Learning, p. 29, [ISBN 1-4239-0178-9](#)
["Roles of people in the development of a website"](#). JT Images. Retrieved 1 October 2011.

Bob B.
Area 35 webmaster
admin@area35.org

ARCHIVES

Greetings from Northern Minnesota!

It is hard to believe we are coming to the end of our rotation! I have learned a lot along the way and also discovered I still have a lot to learn! I am looking forward to the forum in Bloomington and hope a lot of people take this opportunity. We continue to "trudge the road" of happy destiny in District 9 and I am thankful for the opportunity to be a small part of this fellowship. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity.

Yours in service,

Antonette F.
Area 35 Archives Chair

ARCHIVIST

Hello all.

I will be attending the Regional Forum in September but I can't go to the National AA Archivists workshop due to an upheaval at work. My boss quit and we were already short 3 people so I just can't take the time off. I guess I plan for Philly in 2015. I will be given a history talk in Bemidji on October 12 at the Alano club. See you in Detroit Lakes.

Brad I.
Area 35 archivist

COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED

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

I enjoyed the recent discussion with individuals involved with CPC in Area 36 at our joint areas committee meeting. I am hopeful that we can cooperate together in several state-wide CPC events in the upcoming rotation.

At our August Area Committee Meeting, our CPC committee voted to support an AA CPC booth at the 2013 St. Louis Health and Human Services Conference. This event will be held at the DEC in Duluth MN on October 17-18. This conference is attended by 2,000 Health and Human Services professionals from districts throughout the state of Minnesota. The Area Assembly voted to contribute \$500.00 to cover the booth cost, literature costs and CPC Chair travel expenses for this event. I will be working with volunteers from Districts 8, 9 and 12 on setting up and covering our booth for this event.

I am looking forward to the upcoming West Central AA Service Forum this coming weekend in Bloomington MN. This type of event in which we can interact with service volunteers from our region, attend workshops and interact with workers from our New York office occurs very infrequently, so I would encourage many Area 35 trusted servants to attend this event.

I am also looking forward to seeing you all at our upcoming Fall Assembly in Detroit Lakes.

In service,

Roger R.
Area 35 CPC Chair

CORRECTIONS

Good day to all,

Well to start with, I did attend the joint 35/36 workshop in St. Cloud on July 20th and was able to talk and meet a lot of passionate and dedicated people in AA. I have received two requests to be added to the corrections contact database from Area 35.

I am looking forward to my first corrections transitional fair in Moose Lake on October 3rd. I have been receiving requests from the transitional fairs that have been going on in both areas and I have contacted the chairs in the districts they are being released in.

I do thank you all for all the help.

Yours in service,

Skip D.
Area 35 Corrections Chair

GRAPEVINE

Busy time of year in this area 35 grapevine chair! I received September's Grapevine front cover Keeping AA Safe, Our common welfare: Ways we use the Steps, Traditions and group conscience in our meetings. There are some articles that would be great for a Grapevine topic at our AA meetings. I also received the LaVina. I received the newest book from Grapevine NO MATTER WHAT Dealing with Adversity in Sobriety. It will be available and more at our Fall Assembly in Detroit Lakes October 5th and 6th. I am placing a Grapevine order soon so if you would like any material for your group let me know. I got to get this out to Jana before WCR Forum in Minneapolis this weekend.

(Grapevine report continued)

Subscribe-Subscribe, and go on line and sign up for quote of the day it's free! I received my packet for the assembly so I will have material on tables again. A past delegate agreed to let his name stand for the Grapevine position of non-trustee.

Also hope to have a good discussion at the WCR Form about contents of Grapevine and particular the so called gray pages, so hopefully it will be brought back to our groups for input.

Join us at our committee meeting at the Fall Assembly to go thru the older than dirt material that we are going to discuss and determine what to do with.

I'm sure our Literature Chair will have a ton of literature he also would like to unload! That's it for now!

Thanks for letting me be of service to area 35!

Carey A.
Area 35 Grapevine Chair

LITERATURE

Greetings friends!

I hope your summer has been all you expected it to be...and then some!

I'm looking forward to the Fall Assembly October 5th and 6th in beautiful Detroit Lakes! We will have a number of items displayed for purchase with a special "bargain" table. This table will be full of older cassettes, VHS' and other items that would be of much better service to others if taken home than back sitting on the shelves collecting dust. Please take a moment to stop by both the Literature table and the wonderful Grapevine display where you can pick up a copy of *Language of the Heart* among many great Grapevine material.

As I write this report, online ordering of Literature at www.aa.org is not yet available, but I trust this will be soon. In any event, I should have plenty of catalogs available and will be available to answer any questions you may have about ordering directly from AAWS.

Literature Spotlight; *Came to Believe*

This is a soft cover booklet previously with a red cover and now has a new blue cover with clouds. This booklet is described as; The spiritual adventure of A.A. as experienced by individual members. Over 75 A.A. members from all over the world describe the wide diversity of convictions implied in "God as we understood Him." Especially helpful to those who confuse "spiritual" with "religious."

“Do not let any prejudice you may have against spiritual terms deter you from honestly asking yourself what they might mean to you.” –Bill W.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions and/or concerns you may have.

Yours in service,

Sean D.
Area 35 Literature Chair

COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Greetings!

Here we are summer closing and fall approaching a favorite time of year for many as well as mine.

Our PI people in Area 35 continue to be busy. Meeting schedules are being updated and made available regularly, luncheons are being held or planned in some districts, beginners meetings provided and informational booths held at county fairs. This is being a problem for us as most fairs are requiring that you are insured and those costs aren't within reason anymore.

Area 35 was represented at the State Fair again this year and all went well. It amazes me as to how one feels to be able to carry the message to those who stop by. I would like all those who took time slots to man the booth. It may have been hot and humid but very worthwhile. I will have memories forever of some and the simple thanks for being there is really something.

On the home front I attended the Keep It Simple Weekend and several Open speaker meetings what great places to bring a newcomer. As the journey continues I am looking forward to

the upcoming Forum as well as other Area events. As our rotations are closing we must not think too much of the things we didn't do but the things we did. Hopefully we will read our successors into those things to look at and maybe carry out in their duties. In closing I suggest you to get involved in service and find that you can and will become a better person yourself as well as for your family and others you may interact with.

In service,

Butch R.
Area 35 PI Chair

TREATMENT

Greetings!

It's been a little slow these past couple of months. There were several "Bridging the Gap" requests for temporary contacts this past month. I have also been in contact with several Treatment Facilities in the Area and am still awaiting replies for presentations within their facilities either to clients or the staff. I recently attended the Donovan Frank Treatment Facility in Virginia, Minnesota and gave a talk to several clients as well as local AA members. Despite the lack of numbers in attendance, they were a very attentive group of clients. It is always a privilege and honor to go into these facilities and carry the message.

We have decided not to have a workshop the remainder of the rotation, due to a busy schedule and many events going on the last part of the year. We look forward to all the important events coming up that are essential to Alcoholics Anonymous.

An ASL (American Sign Language) translation of the pamphlet "AA for the Alcoholic with Special Needs" is now available on DVD. A new audio CD, in English, French and Spanish, of this pamphlet is also available for the blind and for those who are learning challenged. The ASL DVD also includes English subtitles. In 2012 the Conference Committee on Treatment and Special Needs Accessibilities suggested that the pamphlet be produced in formats for alcoholics who are deaf, blind or have learning challenges.

(Treatment report continued)

More information can be read in the AA newsletter for professionals About AA... Summer Edition 2013.

Yours in service,

Randy A.
Area 35 Treatment Chair

GROUP RECORDS

Happy Fall! Or should I say goodbye heat wave??

Since the August Committee Meeting in Aitkin, I went to District 15's meeting where elections were held. Congratulations to the new officers! I also attended District 18's meeting and brought them the flyers and Northern Light from the Aitkin Meeting. I also mailed District 2 the Flyers and Northern Light's so that these two districts would have a chance to look over Bob's proposal. After that things have been slow going. I have been battling bronchitis for over 3 weeks and am finally feeling a little more alive so I have not felt up doing much but sleep and work. I did go over to Cold Spring and talk with Mike A. at the Cold Spring Record. He said I needed to talk with the Cold Spring Postmaster. Who was not in when I was there? I hope to get a hold of him soon. If anyone has any questions about fliers please get a hold of me if I do not know the answer I will find it. I am working on this issue and will let you know when I get the information. As before if you would like a flyer inserted into the Northern Light the Cold Spring Record will need 600 flyers. Also a check made out to NMAA for \$75 mailed or given to our area Treasurer. I will be updating meetings and calling GSR's/contacts as soon as my voice gets back to normal so people can understand me.

Wishing all GOOD HEALTH, see you at the Fall Assembly in Detroit Lakes. Progress not perfection.

Yours in service,

Sandy H.
Area 35 Group Records Secretary

NORTHERN LIGHT EDITOR

Thank you for opportunity to serve. I can't believe my rotation is almost over. Time has gone way to fast. Time flies when you are having fun. In this issue are the Guidelines for the different opportunities for service this next rotation. Service is such an important part of my sobriety. Its just like breathing. In order to live you have to both inhale & exhale. In the program I have to both take in and accept what they have to offer and then I have to give back in order to live as well.

As always, feel free to submit letters and articles to the Northern Light, which is YOUR newsletter.

Yours in service,

Jana M.
Area 35 Northern Light Editor

AREA 35 ALCHOHOLICS ANONYMOUS TRUSTED SERVANT GUIDELINES

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

Description:

- Provide leadership.
- Assist the Delegate as requested.
- Remain active in Area 35 activities.

Responsibilities:

- Attend all Area Committee Meetings, all Area Assemblies, Area 35 Service Workshop, Area 35/36 Joint Workshop and Annual Service Conference.
- Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.
- 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.
- Work closely with the Delegate to remain informed.
- Become thoroughly familiar with the General Service Conference topics, agenda items, and background material.
- Prepare articles for the Northern Light Newsletter.
- Keep the Delegate informed on any information received.
- Attend District meetings when asked providing information and experience.
- Communicate and talk with all Area Officers and Committee Chairs.
- Secure location, agenda, and prepare for Area 35 Service Workshop in January. This includes but may not be limited to: Inviting guest such as a trustee, GSO staff member, etc. to attend Workshop.
- Developing agenda for workshop and asking district’s to participate and/or present at Workshop.
- Getting sign made for year with the Annual Conference theme to use at events.
- Submitting a report of the weekend events to the fellowship at February Committee Meeting or upcoming Northern Light.
- Set up and hold Zonal Forums each year rotating to the 4 zones during the rotation (2 Forums per year). Update information and make copies of packets for distribution at Zonal Forums.
- Present at the Zonal Forums on the assigned topics.
- Present and answer questions at the GSR Orientations at the Assemblies on the assigned topics.
- Represent the Area in regional or conference matters in the absence of the Delegate.
- Help familiarize new trusted servants (GSR’s, DCM’s, Area Committee Chairs, and District Committee Chairs) with their responsibilities and opportunities in Area 35 service.
- Cooperate in informing and helping Area 35 obtain more participation from its groups and districts.
- Insure that Area 35 map is up to date, updating as needed, and provide members with map each year.
- Communicate items of interest or concern based on how other Areas operate.
- Continually review how Area 35 functions, how it communicates to insure that groups in the area are adequately served within the current structure.
- Monitor our service communication and suggest positive solutions.
- Submit for reimbursement of expenses in a timely manner to insure the consistent and more predictable disbursement of area funds.
- Update the Trusted Servant Guidelines for the Alternate Delegate. 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 Officers with sharing of experience, records, information, and any helpful suggestions for serving as an area officer.

ARCHIVES

Descriptions:

- Gather current and historical information about AA, especially in Area 35, and to preserve it in a meaningful order.
- Provide information in the Area with respect to Archives, coordinating the exchange of ideas and resources between districts.
- Provide experience and assistance in developing projects that will further the carrying of our AA message with respect to Archives.

Responsibilities:

- 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.

GUIDELINES CONTINUED

(Archives guidelines continued)

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

Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.

Read and become familiar with all of AA's history-related material such as: AA Comes of Age, Pass it On, Dr. Bob and the Good Old-timers, Markings on the Journey, Markings Newsletter Etc.

Communicate and cooperate in a working relationship with the Archivist for Area 35 and at GSO.

Work with District Archives and inspire them to collect historical items and information.

Talk at groups, Districts, and workshops about history when asked.

Gather present and historical information about AA in the Area.

Obtain newspaper and magazine clippings from the Public Information Committee or other sources and maintain news clipping scrapbook.

Gather old and new fliers from all over Area 35 and preserve in flier scrapbook.

AREA CHAIRPERSON

Descriptions:

Provides leadership.

Understanding of Steps, Traditions, and Concepts.

Chairpersons should be able to organize and lead.

Responsibilities:

Attend all Area Committee Meetings, Area Assemblies, annual Service Workshop, Area 35/36 Joint Workshop, Zonal Forums, and be available to attend District meetings.

Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.

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.

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

Attend District meetings when asked, to provide information and other leadership help.

Present and answer questions at the GSR Orientations at the Assemblies on the assigned topics and update information and make copies of packets for distribution to the GSR's.

Present at the Zonal Forums on the assigned topics.

In cooperation with Area 36 Chairperson of Southern Minnesota set up a yearly Joint Workshop with them.

Respond to all written correspondence, email correspondence, and phone calls promptly.

Update the Trusted Servant Guidelines for the Area Chairperson by August of 2nd year.

Trusted Servant Guidelines:

Collect all updated Trust Servant Guidelines from Action Committee Chairs and Office at the June Committee Meeting of the 2nd year. Committee Meeting of the 2nd year.

Review the updated guidelines and make any changes.

Send a copy of approved Area 35 Trusted Servant Guidelines to Area 35 Secretary to be added to the Actions Booklets, the Northern Light Editor to be published, and the Area 35 Webmaster to be added to the website.

This should be completed before the August Committee Meeting of the 2nd year.

Presides at meetings of the Area Assembly and Area Committee Meetings in an orderly fashion.

The Area Chairperson is the only Officer authorized to make agreements with service providers on behalf of the Area. Certain exceptions may apply for special services such as accounting and data processing, in which case, the appropriate officer will file with the Area Chairperson any agreements entered into.

The Area Chairperson will appoint, with Area Committee approval, all of the incoming Area Action Committee Chairpersons, Northern Light Editor, Webmaster, and Group Records Secretary.

The Area Chairperson will help put together and be a part of a Financial Oversight Committee.

The Area Chairperson will choose and ask someone to proctor at the election Assembly.

Requests District minutes from DCM's so to be knowledgeable of District service work.

Arrange for reasonably priced meeting sites for the Area Assembly and Area Committee Meetings.

(continued on next page)

GUIDELINES CONTINUED

(Chair guidelines continued)

Scheduling of sites will be completed 2 years in advance.

If needed, sign agreements with providers of meeting space or other services on behalf of the Assembly.

The Area Chairperson is responsible for providing written financial documentation from the Area Action Committee Chair's and Area Officer's to the Treasure no later than February 15th of the 1st year of the 2 year service obligation, and by September 1st of the 1st year for the 2nd year obligation.

The Chairperson with the assistance of the Area Treasurer will present the budget for approval at the Spring Assembly of the 1st year and at the Fall Assembly preceding the 2nd year.

The Area Treasurer and Chairperson are responsible for the review of the actual expenses incurred and have discussion of any excessive deviations with respective person.

Publish the Area Calendar and submit to the Northern Light Editor.

The Chairperson with the assistance of the Area Treasurer will present the budget for approval at the Spring Assembly of the 1st year and at the Fall Assembly preceding the 2nd year.

The Area Treasurer and Chairperson are responsible for the review of the actual expenses incurred and have discussion of any excessive deviations with respective person.

Publish the Area Calendar and submit to the Northern Light Editor.

All resumes for the position of Delegate must be submitted to the Area Chairperson by the June Area Committee of the 2nd year and then forwarded to the Northern Light editor to be published in the August addition of the Area 35 Northern Light.

Meet with other Area Officers and Committee Chairs at the Spring and Fall Assemblies.

Call additional meeting of the Area, if necessary.

With the assistance of the Area Committee, set the Agenda for the Area Assemblies and Committee Meetings and make copies to distribute. Ensure that it is published in the Northern Light and Area 35 Website calendar preceding the Area Assembly and Committee Meeting.

Asks DCM's who host the Assembly to provide volunteers for the coffee, registration tables and greeters.

Prepare articles for the Northern Light newsletter.

Upon rotation, assist the incoming Chairperson with sharing of experience, minutes, any records, Statement of Financial Responsibility, and any information/ guidelines or helpful suggestions for serving and as Area Officer.

CORRECTIONS CHAIR

Description:

To lead and coordinate the work of individual AA members, groups and districts to carry the AA message to alcoholics in correctional facilities in our Area.

To provide a clearinghouse of information in the Area with respect to Correctional Facilities work, coordinating the exchange of ideas and resources between districts. Provide experience and assistance in developing projects that will further the carrying of our AA message into correctional facilities.

Responsibilities:

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.

Attend all Area Committee Meetings, all Area Assemblies, Area 35 Service Workshop, Area 35/36 Joint Workshop and Annual Service Conference. Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.

Obtain, read and use the Correctional Facilities workbook and any related materials from GSO. Work with state and federal facilities to let them be aware of contact list.

Work with state and county officials in coordination of Correctional Facility programs. Assist in placing AA literature in correctional facilities.

Coordinate the work of AA members and groups who are interested in carrying the AA message inside the walls.

Coordinate the means for inmates to “bridge the gap” from prison into the larger AA community. Handle requests for contacts by inmates.

Attend prison Transitional Fairs in Northern Minnesota along with one of your Action Committee Chairs.

Maintain directory of all Area correctional facilities and ensure contact list with all state correctional facilities in the Area.

Maintain contact list of groups and individuals currently bringing AA to correctional facilities.

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

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

In cooperation with Area 36 Corrections of Southern Minnesota serve on the Minnesota Statewide Corrections Committee along with one of your Action Committee Chairs.

When rotating out, help the incoming Corrections Chair with experience, records, information, and any helpful suggestions for serving.

GUIDELINES CONTINUED

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

Descriptions:

Coordinate the exchange of ideas and resources between districts and concentrating on providing information about AA to those who have contact with alcoholics through their profession.

Provide experience and assistance in developing projects that will further the carrying of our AA message through C.P.C.

Responsibilities:

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.

Attend all Area Committee Meetings, all Area Assemblies, Area 35 Service Workshop, Area 35/36 Joint Workshop and Annual Service Conference. Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.

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

Obtain, read, and use C.P.C Workbook and any related materials from the General Service Office (G.S.O). Work with our fellowship by holding workshops and encourage Districts to participate in local work.

Encourage Districts and AA members to communicate about AA with professionals.

Utilize and help coordinate the resources of districts to develop and maintain contact with professional groups in their Districts. Coordinate with GSO on staffing booths with the GSO display at conventions in the Area.

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

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

When rotating out, help with the incoming C.P.C. Chair with experience, records, information, and any helpful suggestions for serving.

DELEGATE

Descriptions:

Provides leadership.

Provides the primary communication link between AA as a whole and Northern Minnesota Area 35.

Responsibilities:

Attend all Area Committee Meetings, Area Assemblies, Area 35 Service Workshop, Area 35/36 Workshop and the Annual Area Service Conference.

Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.

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.

Present and answer questions at the GSR Orientations at the Assemblies on the assigned topics. Present at the Zonal Forums on the assigned topics.

Become thoroughly familiar with the General Service Conference topics.

Arrange opportunities in advance for making conference reports to Districts in Area 35.

Review General Service Conference Advisory Actions that are not covered by other standing committees – i.e. Policy/Admissions, Report & Charter, Trustees, Conference, and International Convention Committees.

Communicate information received in a timely manner to Area 35, making use of Area Assemblies and Committee Meetings, District meetings, Workshops, the Area Newsletter (Northern Light), and regular mailings or emails to the members of the Area 35 Committee.

Attend District meetings when asked, provide reports and other information, and listen for the Districts group conscience and material presented.

Get to know Area 35 trusted servants and make yourself available to assist members in service opportunities.

Coordinate annual group information updates with the Group Records Secretary.

Help Area 35 Action Committee understand how the Conference Advisory Actions apply to their committee activities.

Assist Area 35 Action Committee Chairpersons in forwarding requests or suggestions to the General Service Conference.

Encourage Area Action Committees to discuss General Service Conference topics and to respond to Advisory Actions.

Assist the Alternate Delegate with the January Area 35 Service Workshop.

Represent Area 35 in regional matters.

Prepare articles for the Northern Light newsletter.

Keep the Alternate Delegate informed in the event that the Delegate is unable to attend the General Service Conference.

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GUIDELINES CONTINUED

(Delegate guidelines continued)

Continually review how Area 35 functions, how it communicates to assure the groups in Area 35 are adequately served within the current structure.

Review and suggest updates to the trusted servant guidelines as necessary, cooperating with any other committee or any office in accomplishing this.

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

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

Work with the newly elected Delegate at the end of the second year:

Pass along knowledge of the General Service Conference procedures and problems.

Share statement of Financial Responsibility in preparing of the new Delegate’s finances for the coming year.

Provide records, information, and any helpful suggestions for serving as an Area 35 Officer.

GRAPEVINE CHAIR

Descriptions:

Coordinate the work on individual AA members, groups, and districts to read, subscribe to, and utilize the Grapevine and Grapevine-produced materials.

To encourage individual AA members to contribute written materials to the Grapevine for publication.

Provide information in the Area with respect to the AA Grapevine, coordinating the exchange of ideas and resources between districts.

Provide experience and assistance in developing projects that will further the carrying of our AA message through the Grapevine.

Responsibilities:

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.

Attend all Area Committee Meetings, all Area Assemblies, Area 35 Service Workshop, Area 35/36 Joint Workshop and Annual Service Conference. Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.

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

Obtain, read, and use the Grapevine Workbook and any related materials.

Maintain adequate inventory at Area functions and workshops.

Have guidelines for writing articles on hand at all displays, encouraging Area participation in the Grapevine through the submission of articles.

Encourage Districts to have committee chairs for Grapevine in District.

Encourage Grapevine subscriptions throughout the Area.

Encourage each group to get a Grapevine Representative (GVR).

Handle revenue from Grapevine subscriptions and materials.

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

Submit new items and reprints to the Archives Committee.

Report at Assemblies and Area Committee Meeting the finances regarding what cash is on hand, how much material was sold, etc.

Open a bank account under the Area 35 Treasury for purchasing and selling the Grapevine and Grapevine materials.

Update the Trusted Servant Guidelines for the Grapevine Chair. 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 Grapevine Chair with experience, records, information, and any other suggestions for serving.

GROUP RECORDS SECRETARY

Descriptions:

Maintain an accurate database and mailing list of the groups and trusted servants in the Area. Maintain an accurate mailing list for the Northern Light newsletter.

Update the Webmaster with an accurate database of the list of groups.

Responsibilities:

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.

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GUIDELINES CONTINUED

(Group records guidelines continued)

Attend all Area Committee Meetings, all Area Assemblies, Area 35 Service Workshop, Area 35/36 Joint Workshop and Annual Service Conference.
Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.

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

Print out your instructions for installing your FNV Digital Certificate and send your passwords on to the Webmaster.

Update the DCM's with their group record reports with either an email or hard copy at the February, June, August and December Committee Meeting and the Spring and Fall Assemblies.

Maintain a working relationship with the Records Department at GSO.

Work with the Groups, DCM's and GSR's in each district to maintain accurate information for the Group Database (FNV) at GSO.

Record the new groups in Area 35 as information is received.

Work with and provide the Area Webmaster with updated and new group information in order to keep the website meeting listings up-to-date.

Upload exported group information from Fellowship New Vision to aameetinglocator.org.

Work with Web Coordinator of aameetinglocator.org to make sure that information is listed correctly.

Update and produce mailing lists for Area Mailings.

Send updated Northern Light mailing list to Cold Spring Record for the Northern Light mailings 6 times a year.

Work with Group Records Secretary for Area 36 and update their Officer and Chair information so they will receive the Northern Light Newsletter.

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

Provide Area Committees with any information requested.

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

At the end of your rotation place all the changes for GSR's, DCM's, Chairs, and meetings that you have recorded on a jump drive or hard copy and give to Brad I. for our archives.

When rotating out, help the incoming Group Records Chair with experience, records, information, and any helpful suggestions for serving.

LITERATURE CHAIR

Descriptions:

Coordinate the work on individual AA members, groups, and districts to read and utilize AA literature.

Provide information in the Area with respect to Literature, coordinating the exchange of ideas and resources between districts.

Provide experience and assistance in developing projects that will further the carrying of our AA message using our literature.

Responsibilities:

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.

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

Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.

Become familiar with all available Conference – approved Literature.

Maintain small and manageable Area Literature Inventory.

Display literature at all Area service meetings.

Encourage awareness of new or recently developed literature and service pieces. Have current literature order blanks at all Area functions.

Encourage Districts to have a Literature Chair teach how to order needed material.

Work with other committees to have available literature they might need in their committee activities.

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

Submit new items and reprints to the Archives Committee.

Report at Assemblies and Area Committee Meeting the finances regarding what cash is on hand, how much material was sold, etc.

Open a bank account under the Area 35 Treasury for purchasing and selling literature.

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GUIDELINES CONTINUED

(Literature guidelines continued)

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

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

When rotation out, help the incoming Literature Chair with experience, records, information, and any helpful suggestions for serving.

NORTHERN LIGHT EDITOR

Descriptions:

Publish informative and attractive newsletter to the Area in a timely fashion.

Encourage District reports and be available to work with Districts on communication.

Responsibilities:

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.

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

Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.

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

Prepare and give report at Area events to keep body informed of newsletter content, both positive and problems, concerns or changes.

List deadline for Area minutes, reports and articles in the Northern Light. Also send a reminder email to Officers and Action Chairs as the deadline approaches!

Provide encouragement for writing articles, particularly to DCMs and Area Action Committee Chairs. This must conform to the guidelines as shown in the Newsletter (on the right side-bar around page 11) which states: No Anonymous articles – Each article must have a title, authors first name last initial and city or town of author! There are other helpful guidelines in the Northern Light in addition to what is in here.

Listen to comments from the Area on the content of the newsletter.

Keep informed of activities and issues going on within Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.

Gather useful Service information to publish from sources within the Area, Region, and AA as a whole.

Obtain, read and use other Area newsletters (GSO has record of these).

Become familiar with the bulk mailing process. At this time the deadline is set for a little over a month before next event. This leaves 2 weeks or so to compile reports, minutes and articles and publish as a PDF document.

Ask for help to edit any mistakes or anonymity breaks for printed and online version.

Send digital copy by email to printer and ask for confirmation of receipt.

You should leave the printer at least 2 weeks to print the Northern Light and mail it out.

Maintain or design a flexible layout that can be both used on the area35.org website and sent to the printer.

At this time the newsletter is laid out in Microsoft Publisher and converted into Adobe Acrobat PDF format so Editor should have Publisher. The version that was passed down is old so either the editor should have updated to at least 2007 version or the Area supply it. This is again only a summary of the process and does not take into account the layout process, space concerns, total time needed, or technical abilities needed to successfully publish the newsletter. Although you do not need to be a copywriter or publishing specialist “It can be learned” a prospective editor should have some technical experience.

Updated the Trusted Servant Guidelines for the Northern Light Editor. 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 Northern Light Editor with experience, records, information, and any helpful suggestions for serving.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CHAIR (P.I.)

Description:

To carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. The P.I. Committee achieves this in two ways:

1. Through reaching the “third person” who may know of someone with an alcohol problem.
2. To provide a clearinghouse of information in the Area with respect to P.I., coordinating the exchange of ideas and resources between districts.

Present PI training and workshops to districts as necessary. Provide experience and assistance in developing projects that will further the carrying of our AA message through P.I.

Responsibilities:

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

Obtain, read and use the P.I. Workbook and other related materials from GSO.

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.

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GUIDELINES CONTINUED

(PI guidelines continued)

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

Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.

Encourage attendance and participation in P.I. meetings.

Coordinate any AA exposure to media within the Area.

Coordinate the activities of all public information as it relates to AA within the Area.

Coordinate with Area 35 Southern Minnesota the mailing of the anonymity statements to newspaper, radio and TV stations within the Area.

Develop and maintain Area P.I. displays as necessary.

Be available to meet with media professionals.

Obtain and distribute conference approved radio, press and television materials (Public Service Announcements) throughout the Area.

Monitor the AA anonymity at the level of press, radio, films and internet, per Delegate discretion.

Coordinate Area volunteer staffing of AA both at Minnesota State Fair with Area 36 of Southern Minnesota.

Serve as a resource to the Area and Delegate on P.I. Agenda Items and related background information to be addressed at the GSC.

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

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

Update the Trusted Servant Guidelines for the P.I. Chair. 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 P.I. Chair with experience, records, information, and any helpful suggestions for serving.

SECRETARY

Descriptions:

Keep records (minutes) of all Area Assemblies and Area Committee Meetings.

Responsibilities:

Attend all Area Committee Meetings, Area Assemblies, Annual Service Workshop, Area 35/36 Joint Workshop, Zonal Forums, and be available to attend District meetings.

Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.

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 (Actions Booklet), and any other documents the Area has developed from its experience.

Present and answer questions during the GSR Orientations at the Area Assemblies on assigned topics.

Present at the Zonal Forums on the assigned topics (2 per year, total of 4).

Assist the Area 35 Chairperson at Area Assemblies and Committee Meetings.

Assist the Area 35 Chairperson in developing the agenda for the Area Assemblies and Committee Meetings.

Sign checks for the Area in the absence of either Area Chairperson and/or Treasurer.

Need to take and type/write out any motions in full, that are made, so the Area 35 Chair can read them back to the participants for clarification and voting.

Distribute minutes from Area Assemblies within six **(6)** weeks. (Unless the Northern Light deadline is sooner).

Distribute minutes from Area Committee Meetings within four **(4)** weeks. (Unless the Northern Light deadline is sooner).

A voice recorder may be used at Area Assemblies or Committee Meetings for the purpose of maintaining the accuracy of Area 35 Minutes. A copy of the recording can be obtained from Area 35 Archivist. Try to make sure people are talking into the microphones so they can be heard on the recording.

Send Area 35 Minutes by email to: GSO (literature@aa.org) and GSO Archives (archives@aa.org), Area 35 Archives, Current Regional Trustee, Area Action Committee Chairs and Officers, District Committee Chairs (DCM's) and District Action Committee Chairs, Past Delegates and any member of Area 35 that requests a copy by email.

Send Area 35 Minutes by mail upon request to Area 35 AA members.

Make a deadline for all Area Officers, Committee Chairs, and DCMs to submit their report to be added to the minutes from the Assemblies or Committee Meetings (make in accordance with the Northern Light Deadline). Reports can be sent by email, mail, or hand delivered during the Area 35 event.

Publish all Area 35 minutes in the Northern Light Newsletter (Anonymity protected).

Have Area 35 members (i.e. Area 35 Chairperson) review minutes for changes or corrections.

Ability to utilize Area 35 laptop and computer programs in order to type and email minutes.

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GUIDELINES CONTINUED

(Secretary guidelines continued)

Create fliers for Spring and Fall Assemblies. Email fliers to distribution list. Have copies available at all Committee Meetings, Workshops and other service functions. On the fliers include: date, location, map of location, contact information for hotels and costs, deadline for making hotel reservation under block of rooms, agenda or time Assembly starts, and any other information necessary for the Assemblies.

Send announcement for Area 35 service functions (Assemblies and Workshops) to Box 4-5-9. Use the form developed by GSO when submitting an announcement. You can email (literature@aa.org) the form to Box 4-5-9. The announcement needs to be submitted to Box 4-5-9 at least **4 months prior** to the event. Action Booklet – update the Area 35 Action Booklet at the end of each service rotation (every 2 years) using the Action Booklet Guidelines. Make about 400 copies. Distribute the new Action Booklet at the February Committee Meeting. Inform the incoming Secretary to add the cost for printing the updated Area Actions Booklet to their budget.

Mail welcome letters to new registered groups to Area 35. The Area 35 Groups Records Secretary will give you the group information as soon as they become active. You can include: Welcome letter, fliers of upcoming Area 35 Events, GSO and Area 35 contribution envelopes and small cards used to keep the groups service number, GSO address, Area 35 address, District address, and Intergroup addresses.

Communication frequently with Area 35 Officers and and send out information as needed.

Submit for reimbursement of expenses in a timely manner to ensure the consistent and more predictable disbursement of Area 35 funds.

Respond to all written, email correspondence and phone calls promptly.

Prepare articles for the Northern Light newsletter.

Update the Trusted Service Guidelines for the Secretary. Submit to the Area Chairperson no later than the June Committee Meeting of your 2nd year. Upon rotation, assist the incoming Secretary with sharing of experience, minutes, any records, State of Financial Responsibility, and any other information/ guidelines or helpful suggestions for serving and as Area Officer.

TREASURER

Descriptions:

Handles all Area monies, keeps records of contributions and disbursements.

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. These provide the Treasurer Area policy along with specific procedures for handling Area funds.

Responsibilities:

Attend all Area Committee Meetings, Area Assemblies, Annual Service Workshop, Area 35/36 Joint Workshop, Zonal Forums, and be available to attend District meetings.

Attend Regional Forum and/or Regional Conferences where fully reimbursed.

Present and answer questions at the GSR Orientations at the Assemblies on the assigned topics.

Present at the Zonal Forums on the assigned topics.

Secure a PO Box for contributions under the name *Northern MN Area Assembly*. Get contribution envelopes printed with the PO Box number on it.

Submit documentation to open a bank checking and savings account using the name *Northern MN Area Assembly*. Add the Chairperson as the second name on both of the accounts and have a second set of bank statements mailed to the Chair person's address.

Order laser printer checks from QuickBooks with continuing sequential numbers.

Open a new Paypal account. Submit documentation to open new account. Put in limbo current Paypal account. Give Area Webmaster new link to Paypal.

Keep a separate chart of accounts for Northern Light fliers, and if needed Grapevine and/or Literature income and expenses.

Back up QuickBooks on a regular basis and store in a separate location.

Pick up contributions from PO Box on a frequent basis, making all deposits in a timely manner. Send acknowledgments for contributions which include year-to-date totals.

Pay bills promptly. (Pay the web hosting fees for the Area 35 website annually to Company: LINKSKY VALUE HOST INC, and pay Southern MN (Area 36) for the State Fair booth.

Have the following items readily available at all area functions: Area checkbook, Area Statement of Financial Responsibility, vouchers for completing expense reimbursement, and contribution envelopes for the Area and the General Service Office and Birthday Plan.

The Treasurer is responsible for compiling and quantifying budgets received from Area Officers and Area Action Committee Chairs. Write a report for each Northern Light issue giving a current financial summary and other information of interest.

Using QuickBooks, or a similar financial program approved by the Area, create and provide the Area with sufficient copies of the following three financial reports at each Area Assembly or Area Committee Meeting:

Detailed Expenditures: a summary of actual and comparatives for expenses of each Action Committee Chair and Area Officer. Include period totals and year-to-date totals.

Profit and Loss Budget Performance: A summary financial statement of the total income and expenses for the period. Include period totals, year-to-date totals, period-to-date budgets, and year-to-date budgeted amounts.

Group Contributions Listing: show period-to-date and year-to-date group and birthday contributions organized by district.

Balance Sheet: Shows monthly asset balances of all accounts (checkbook, savings, Northern Light fliers, and/or Grapevine and Literature, cash and any other accounts needed) Along with monthly open balance, net income, yearly income, from previous year to account for current monthly total equity.

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GUIDELINES CONTINUED

(Treasurer guidelines continued)

Reconcile checkbook in QuickBooks monthly and provide the Finance Committee with copies of a reconciliation report generated by QuickBooks at agreed upon times.

Provide the Finance Committee with copies of a reconciliation report at agreed upon times.

Be present during review of the Area’s finances to answer any questions. Explain any un-reconciled income and checks.

Area Treasurer and Chairperson are responsible for review of the actual expenses incurred, and any discussion of any excessive deviations with the respective person. The Concepts of AA will be used as the guideline for all decisions regarding the financial actions of Area 35.

Transfer funds to the reserve fund when advised to do so.

Forward any address changes to the Group Records Secretary.

If unable to attend any functions, coordinate with the Chairperson for handling of finances.

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

Encourage 7th tradition support through various methods, including workshops, Northern Light Articles, visiting groups and districts, and highlighting the Birthday plan.

Respond to all written and email correspondence and phone calls promptly.

Complete a tax-exempt form 1099N (good for income less than \$50,000 or 1099EZ for non-profit organizations with the Area Chairs approval.

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

In the case the Treasurer is not available the Area Chair may sign checks. When opening the checking account, make sure the Area Chair signs a card to be second signature on the account. Area Chair will sign all checks for reimbursement of the Treasurer.

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

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

Upon rotation of office, help the incoming Treasurer with sharing of experience, records, information, and any helpful suggestions for serving as an Area Officer.

TREATMENT CHAIR

Descriptions:

Coordinate the work on individual AA members, groups, and districts who are interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics in treatment facilities.

Set up a means of “bridging the gap” from the facility to the larger AA community.

Provide information in the Area with respect to Treatment Facilities, coordinating the exchange of ideas and resources between districts.

Provide experience and assistance in developing projects that will further the carrying of our AA message in treatment.

Responsibilities:

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.

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

Attend Regional Forums and/or Conferences where fully reimbursed.

Submit for reimbursement of expenses in a timely manner to insure the consistent and more predictable disbursement of Area funds. Obtain, read, and use the Treatment Facilities workbook and any related materials from GSO.

Keep current lists of facilities including long term, short term, outpatient treatment facilities, detox centers, and halfway houses. Work with districts on how to encourage meetings within the facilities.

Keep record of reports and lists of members in Districts willing to work on committee. Continually review methods of assistance to groups going into facilities.

Coordinate the work of AA members and groups who are interested in carrying the AA message into treatment centers.

Set up and maintain the means for patients to “bridge the gap” from treatment facilities into the larger AA community (Temporary Contact Program).

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

Help coordinate/facilitate work on Special Needs Accessibilities Committees.

Update the Trusted Servant Guidelines for the Treatment Chair. 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 Treatment Chair with experience, records, information, and any helpful suggestions for serving.

GUIDELINES CONTINUED**WEBMASTER****Descriptions:**

The WEBMASTER’S position is administrative. This position does not require a knowledge on HTML or other programming skills. This position does require use of a computer, access to the WEB and e-mail.

Follow recommendations by the area 35 assemblies. Following GSO’s website guidelines.

Thoroughly review all fliers submitted for posting to make sure that all traditions are followed, and make any changes as necessary (removal of last names etc.) Post on calendar in a timely manner. If the webmaster is not sure about a particular flier or page, it should be looked over by the entire web committee before being posted.

Add, delete or edit meeting information in a timely manner. Based on area 35 web guidelines in conjunction with information provided by working closely with the area records secretary.

Add, delete or edit district pages as each district wishes. Help create district pages and maintain them within Area 35 guidelines.

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

Maintain the “anonymous respond” email account.

Maintain all forwarding email accounts associated with the website (ex: areachair@area35.org) by notifying our web provider in a timely manner with any changes.

Make physical changes to the website (or delegate to an AA member with web programming experience) as requested by the committee or Area 35 as a whole.

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.

Respond to any email inquiries in a timely manner.

Review usage reports from our web provider, and share them with the committee.

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.

Area 35 WEBMASTER is a voting, standing, member of our Area 35/Area 36 ad-hoc aameetinglocator committee. Support and participate in training opportunities at the Area, District, or Group level.

Responsibilities:

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

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.

Request and encourage each District to elect or appoint a representative to the committee, preferable the chairperson of the corresponding district action committee.

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 all payments up to date for our WEB site.

Keep all payments up to date for our domain name.

Budget and pay all joint aameetinglocator expenses.

Attend and participate at all aameetinglocator meetings (Most of these meeting are online virtual meeting, up to 4 per year)

Keep the area 35 committee and assembly informed about aameetinglocator activities. Report in Northern Light Area Newsletter.

Update the Trusted Servant Guidelines for the Webmaster. 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 Chair with experience, records, information, and any other helpful suggestions for serving.

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.

**Area 35 Committee Meeting
August 4, 2013
Minutes**

Call to order – Open with the Serenity Prayer after a brief silence in memory of Dist. 21, DCM, Dave G.

Recognize past Delegates: Panel 44 Bruce B., Panel 48 Susie A., Panel 50 Tom A. and Panel 52 Tim C.

Additions to the Agenda: Roger R, CPC Chair Area 35 asked to add the St Louis County Health and Human Services Conference Exhibit

Approve June Committee Minutes: The minutes were approved as written

OFFICER REPORTS

DELAGATE – Jim K. - 8-4-2013 Greetings members of Area 35. I hope you all have been enjoying the summer and have had a chance to spend time with family and friends. This has been a relatively busy summer for me with AA commitments, moving, and some family difficulties but I have been able to keep a peace about me due to this new way of life you have shown me. I thank you for that and for the opportunity to serve this fellowship. Since we have last met we also lost an active DCM from District 21, Dave G. Dave was true joy to watch as a member of our Area and he will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Dave's family and the members of District 21. I want to start off by thanking every district for taking the time to schedule a Delegate's report back this year. This has been my main goal and activity of the summer and it has truly been a privilege to have a chance to visit each district. I finished my final report near the middle of July and I have truly enjoyed the experience of seeing all of the districts and to hear about how the message is being carried in our area. I want to thank all of the districts for their work, hospitality, inspiration, and for allowing me to visit. I hope that the reports back provided adequate information regarding this year's conference advisory actions as well as other pertinent information for our fellowship. More importantly, I hope it encourages continued conversations within your home groups and districts as to how we are doing in fulfilling our primary purpose. I attended the Area 35/36 joint workshop in St. Cloud on July 20th and was able to sit in on the officers meeting at the workshop. Thanks to all the Area Committee Chairs who presented at the workshop. I also want to offer a very special thank you to Bob B., our Area Webmaster, who gave a phenomenal presentation on an updated version of our joint meeting locator to be voted on this fall for full implementation. Bob has put in an incredible amount of time to update a very dysfunctional system and the product he is putting forward is outstanding. If you have not already done so, I would strongly encourage you to register and set up your reservations for our upcoming West Central Regional Forum to be held September 6, 7, and 8 in Bloomington MN. We only get this event in our state once every 8 years so it is a great opportunity to attend the event with reduced cost and travel. You can register for the event by going directly to the aa.org website. Hotel reservations need to be made by the 6th of August to insure discounted rates. Finally, I want to encourage Area Officers, Action Chairs, DCMs, GSRs, and all A.A. members to consider possible proposal ideas to submit to the General Service Office for consideration for next year's General Service Conference. Proposals need to be submitted prior to December 15th. Thanks again for this opportunity to serve Area 35 and for all our individual work to our fellowship. Yours In Service, Jim K.

ALTERNATE DELEGATE – Michael (Jake) J. – Wow, summer is almost over and we have 5 months left of our terms. I hope we have done things that improve Service in Area 35 and have brought hope to many more alcoholics in need. First, I want to share in our loss of Dave G from District 21. He was a great guy. I had the privilege of knowing him the first time he sobered up and have watched the change this time as he fell in love with the fellowship and program of AA. He was a blessing in District 21, thank you for allowing him to serve us. I had the privilege of attending the Bill and Lois gathering at Deer Lake and enjoyed the fellowship and speakers. Mosquitos were hungry though and chased everyone inside. It is a beautiful place and I hope many get the chance to attend next year. I got to enjoy the speaker and fellowship at the Cotton open meeting. A pleasure to see friends I don't see often. I still continue to speak at the treatment centers and encourage my sponsee's to do the same. I enjoy attending meetings and was invited to Zim and got to spend time with a longtime friend from Montana. It is always a pleasure to see the people that encourage you in early sobriety. I attended the District 9 Open Meeting which I do enjoy when I attend. I have secured the Days Inn in Moorhead for the January Workshop. Steve sending will send the retainer money for me. I have a Zonal Forum lined up in Cold Spring on Sept 14th. Thanks Mary for making Flyers. I was hoping to have another at the end of September but the Districts where it would have been are participating in a workshop. Yeah for you guys. I love District Workshops. I hope you all enjoy the rest of summer. I know between working on my houses and trying to relax it will be gone before I know it. Take care and God Bless. Yours in Service and Love, Michael (Jake) J.

CHAIR – Kelly D. - Good morning everyone, it is good to be here with all of you today. It is hard to believe we are in the month of August already, hope you are all enjoying your summer. I was able to attend Jim, our Area 35 Delegates report back again with my home District 5 on July 16th at the Milaca Alano Club. It was nice to see some new faces and AA so alive in that area. Jim, did another great job and there was much discussion from the floor on some of the issues faced today in Alcoholics Anonymous. I attended our Joint Workshop with Area 36 on July 20th, we had 71 in attendance. The Chairs did a great job on their presentations and there was a lot of sharing amongst the Areas in the breakout sessions. I received the minutes from the Area 36 Secretary and they will be posted in the next addition of the Northern Light along with the evaluations I received. If anyone would like a copy before then just let me know and I will get them to you. I also just received the bill today for the use of the space at the church from Scott, DCM District 13. Cost for the space was \$225.00, food and coffee was \$96.40 and copies \$10.50 for a total of \$331.90. The basket brought in \$104.30 so total costs to each Area will be \$113.80. I would like to thank Scott and District 13 for hosting this event and Missy, Area 36 Chair for her help in planning this Workshop with me. It was a great time of exchanging information on how we can further carry AA's message of hope in Minnesota. I finished updating all the Area 35 Officers and Chairs guidelines and have sent them on to Jana, to be published in the next addition of the Northern Light, Bob to post on our Area website and Mary, to put in our Area 35 Action Book. I have made my reservation for the upcoming WCR Forum coming up September 6-8th in Bloomington and look forward to our Zonal Forum in Cold Spring the following Saturday. I will be out at the State Fair AA Booth on Saturday, August 24th from 7:00-9:00 pm, stop by and say hi if you are there. On a personal note I am very saddened by the sudden loss to our fellowship of one of our own, Dave G. Dave did a lot of service for AA and District 21 and he will be greatly missed. I will forever hold a special place in my heart for him as I am sure he will for many of you too. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Kelly D., Area 35 Chair

SECRETARY – Mary S. – Since the last committee meeting I typed up the minutes and e-mailed them out to the distribution list and Northern Light. I received some feedback and I was happy to know that people are actually reading the minutes. I attended the Area 35/36 workshop in St. Cloud on July 20th. I enjoyed the Corrections Power Point by Mary M. She talked about the prisons in Minnesota and the number of prisoners serving time in each prison. Bob filled us in on the new and improved AA Meeting Locator site. It's very user friendly and I hope people will take a look at it and see how easy it is to use. Until Area 35 and Area 36 decide to use it, he said it will not be maintained, so if you see some groups with old addresses, that would be why. Randy reviewed what he has done with Treatment. I enjoyed meeting people from other parts of the state. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the West Central Regional Forum in Bloomington the first weekend in September. That would be my brother-in-laws wedding and that is where I need to be that weekend. Also, I will miss the Zonal Forum the following weekend for another family wedding. I printed up some flyers for the Zonal Forum and they are on the back table. Please take them and share them with your groups so that there is a good turnout. Mike J also asked me to make a flyer for the January Workshop which will be held in Moorhead. That flyer is also on the back table. Last but not least, I was saddened by the death of our District 21 DCM, Dave G. I offered to attend their next District Meeting on August 12th in Bemidji and the Alano club House. I would like to offer my support and condolences. He was a good man, and I'll miss him. Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 35 as your secretary.

TREASURER – Steve L. – Good morning everyone, I am Steve L. your area Treasurer, and I hope everyone is having a good morning so far. I have two more of these reports that I need to deal with, and it's hard to believe that my term is almost over. And then you are going to have to break someone else in. Since the election is at our next meeting, and since the Treasurer is nominated off the floor, you might want to take a look at the officer responsibilities in case you are nominated or would like to nominate someone else. I hope everyone picked up the two reports on the back table. One is your group contributions listing and you can see that we have an income of \$4,808.06 for Period 4 and \$17,605.04 for year to date. The report also shows how much each group in Area 35 has contributed and you can take this report back to your home group and show them how much the group has contributed to the Area.

Some groups have question marks by them, and you might want to find out if they are active or not, and perhaps we can get this report cleaned up for the new treasurer who will come in on the next rotation. The next sheet would be area expenses. We have detailed expenses for the Officers and Chairs, we have our balance sheet for the whole year... and on the back page is an event summary report which states the profit & loss budget performance so you can take a look at that too. Our income is currently 46% under budget for the period from what we budgeted for at the beginning of 2013. And we're 47% under budget for year to date, so we are doing very well as a whole. It looks like we are spending about the same amount we are bringing in for the year. We approved up to \$400.00 for the Minnesota Odyssey but we spent \$494.60 and I didn't catch that until writing up the report. I want to say that the Joint Workshop was great and it was good to meet the treasurer for Area 36 and compare notes. It was quite a shock to hear about Dave G from Dist 21. I drove out to the West Central in South Dakota with him. I'm registered and have a room for the Forum in Bloomington. If you go, remember if you say something to them, they remember the questions and you might get a phone call from them because they really listen.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

GROUP RECORDS – Sandy H.- Hi, I'm Sandy H., Alcoholic. 591 Northern Lights were mailed out this last month. FNV has 522 active groups, 69 unknown groups, 6 pending active, 1 new group, 1 Incomplete. It has been an enlightening last few weeks. I attended Area 35/36 workshop in St Cloud, which was very informative. I talked with Area 36 Group Records Secretary, which was good to touch base again. Our breakout sessions went well and the workshop went by way to fast. Since the workshop I have been busy with the FNV data base. I am going through every active meeting and calling or emailing all the contacts. I am through District 6 and will be continuing again next week. I can say I am truly amazed at all the very friendly, helpful GSR's present and past. I cannot thank you enough for all your help it continues to be an amazing experience to talk to everyone or not! So if you are here and are a GSR PLEASE see me before the end of the meeting so I can update your information. Many of the meetings are in need of updates it has been an eye opening experience. I received a call from the Cold Spring Postmaster who, along with Mike the Cold Spring Editor we're not happy. So this is what he said. He does not remember what separate flyer went out last week and who dropped it off at the Cold Spring Record, but everything about the flyer was wrong from the folding to the permit. He asked that the next time anyone would like to mail a flyer separate, please call Mike and talk with him about what and how things need to be done. When dropped off nothing was mentioned Mike thought this was to be inserted in the Northern Light. So please communicate with Mike at Cold Spring Record before printing your flyer to avoid further misunderstands this would be greatly appreciated. The Cold Spring Postmaster said everyone gets a freebee this was ours. See you in October, happy fall! Yours in service, Sandy H. Area 35 Group Records Secretary

NORTHERN LIGHT – Jana M. – Hello, the deadline for reports and articles in the Northern Light will be Sept 1st. Please get your reports into me by Sept 1st because I want to go to the regional forum and that would help me out a lot, otherwise it will be hard to get the paper out and go to the Regional Forum. There are good candidates who are standing for Delegate and those resumes will be in the Northern Light. I attended the Area 35/36 Workshop and it was great. I learned a lot and it's great to see how well corrections and other committees are working together. The next edition will have the Position Guidelines printed in it as well, so if you want to know what each position involves, you will be able to read them in the next edition. Thank you for the letting me serve as Northern Light Editor, Jana.

District 21 – Irv R.- The Death of Dave G brings me to interim DCM. District 21 service workshop was well attended. Jim K gave presentation, broke for lunch and banana splits. Last session dedicated to covering sponsorship service. District had a memorial meeting for Dave G which was well attended with many people from outside the district. This proved the vulnerability of the individual and the resilience of AA As a whole. Archives workshop tentative planning for the late September – November. Other Districts are encouraged to attend. Financial condition is sound. GSR Participation is marginal. Chair participation is good. Irv R, Interim DCM, Dist 21.

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 Avenue, Grand Rapids, MN. Our last district meeting was July 3rd. Our district is working on a joint Service Workshop with Districts 8, 9 and 14. No issues or questions. Our next District meeting will be August 7th. Yours in Service, Gene.

CORRECTIONS – Skip D.- Greetings to all – There were 10 in attendance at the Corrections Committee meeting this morning. We talked about Moose Lake and Thistledeew. Thistledeew is trying to get an AA meeting going for the men. Moose Lake would like to have a transitional fair, so we are helping them work on that, and inviting AA. Crow Wing County had an informational meeting/fair. Aitkin is having trouble getting people cleared to go into the jail. Sandstone Prison has NA group but no AA group. Detroit lakes has 2 people cleared to go into the jail. I attended the Area 35/36 Workshop in St. Cloud as well as the meeting on June 15th to plan for the Workshop. 15 attended the breakout session at the Workshop. The Workshop was very informational and I was glad I went. Thank you for allowing me to serve. Skip D.

District 8 – Rolene L.- Hello from Dist 8. We are coming closer to our end of rotation. In Sept. we will be having our District elections. We have been busy working on our District Inventory questions each month we do two questions. It is very helpful to our District. A couple months ago our PI?CPC Chair resigned. We had two members willing to fill in. District 8 thanks Jerri M. and Torey M. for your willingness to serve. We have new meeting schedules. We needed to update our information. Also, I have been in contact with 3 other DCM's... District 9, District 14 and District 16, since the Spring Assembly, we are planning a Service Workshop on Oct. 26th. Flyers are on the back table for anyone interested. This workshop is to help inform incoming District officers on their positions. And we can share our experience to the new rotation on how to be more helpful to our groups. This is a great way to have unity and responsibility in our Area. We will be having an open speaker meeting that evening. What a better way to end a service workshop is with our Area 35 Delegate Jim K shoring his story. My heart goes out to District 21, Dave G. will be sadly missed. I enjoyed working with him at AA functions. I am planning on attending the West Central Regional Forum in Bloomington. This will be another great experience in my journey as this time GSO will be there. I encourage may AA members to attend this forum. I thank District 8 for allowing me to serve. Yours in Service, Rolene L, DCM Dist 8.

District 9 – John F.- All is well in our District. Obligations are being met. Jim came up and did a wonderful presentation. Then Tom L, our former Delegate spoke that evening. Our PI/CPC put on a wonderful display in the window of the Hibbing Library. We will be taking nominations at our next District Meeting. We have made our plans to attend the upcoming forum and the Fall Assembly. We are working with Rolene on the Workshop and with Roger at the Human Services Workshop. Thank you for the opportunity to serve, John F.

CPC – Roger R.-Then members attended our PI/CPC break-out session this morning. Districts 5,8,11,14,6 & 3 were represented at this meeting. Bill from Dist 11 is planning for a booth at the Grand Casino employee Health Fair (1700 people) Area 35 completed the 1st collaboration between area 35 CPC and Area 36 special needs committees on the 2013 MN Age and Disability Odyssey. I would like to thank the following volunteers – Leslie M., Rita D., Charlie C., Bruce B and Carey A. We had an opportunity to carry our message to about 300 Human Services professionals who visited our booth. I attended the joint area workshop on July 20th. I presented with Carla N. on our Odyssey Collaboration at the event. I am looking forward to attending the West Central Regional Forum in September. In Service, Roger R.

District 11 – Bill C.- We held the District Meeting July 2nd. Jim Kath gave his delegate report and we had a potluck dinner. Singleness of purpose was discussed vigorously. Many people from the district attended the “We Sober Fest” and we all danced to the band. We have been doing many fellowship activities like bowling and horse riding. All our Jail commitments are being met thanks to Gary. I helped man the booth at Pine County Fair with an old timer, 37 years sober who was at my father's first meeting in 1974. He said our job at the Fair was to play cribbage and have fun and we did have fun. He beat me all 3 games.

District 18 – Neil R. - Absent – No Report

District 14 – Deb A. – Hello Area 35. I would like to extend a big thank you to Jim K. for making the drive to International Falls to present his delegate report from the general service conference. Our District has been building funds and will be able to print much needed meeting schedules in august. We are going to focus on PI/CPC in our District in the coming months. Yours in service – Deb A

GRAPEVINE – Carey A.- Districts 3,4,5,6,13 and 8 were in attendance. Will be making a Grapevine order! Soon will have available at Fall Assembly new publication: One on One – AA Sponsorship in Action. 25th Anniversary... The Language of the Heart, Bill W's Grapevine writings. Grapevine has an Audio Project – You can call and tell Grapevine your story in 7 minutes or less. Call the audio project voicemail or use your own digital recorder or smartphone. To record, visit www.aagrapevine.org/audio-partial for more information. “The AA Grapevine Corporate Board” will have an opening for position of non trustee Director vacancy following the GSC in April 2014. The committee discussed grapevine and contents such as the Gray Pages on page 60 – 62.

Also asked if the District Rep will bring back to the District for discussion.; Attended Area 35/36 Workshop on July 20th, 2013. Literature /Grapevine dist 5 DCM – Grapevine is being rotated to other fac. Update District 5 Chairs Literature/Grapevine inventory from \$150.00 to \$200.00, Asked Heidi if that is all AA Literature or does it include Grapevine – will check on this. District 6 reported Jerry GSR – District 13 – DCM Scott shared District meeting Tom will discuss literature distribution. Al is Dist 13 Literature/Grapevine chair. There was a discussion on possible outdated material. 1. What do we do with outdated material? – will bring to fall assembly committee meeting. Committee today decided to look at all literature Grapevine outdated material – possible make available to Group/District in Area 35. –Carey A.

District 4 – Jim T.-Activities for the summer months have focused on the five county fairs within district 4. We will place pamphlets and meeting schedules in four of the five fairs: Douglas, Pope, Stevens, Traverse and Grant. Only the Grant County fair came and went without material present. We usually pair with either the Public Health display or the mental Health booth at the fairs. The district Secretary resigned last week due to a change in jobs which will prevent her from attending the District meetings. At each of our meetings since June we have announced the need for candidates to step forward for the District Officer positions so that we can present a slate at the November meeting. Thus far, volunteers have been few and far between. We are discussing the need and the timing for another district Inventory. The last one was taken 2 years ago, and each issue or need addressed in that inventory have been reviewed, taking one item per month, seeking current comments and identifying what actions are appropriate. The DCM will be attending the West Central Regional Forum in Bloomington next month. We are encouraging GSR's to attend the Area 35 Fall Assembly in October. Jim T, DCM

District 15-Pete B.- Greetings from District 15! Our last meeting was July 1st. Out secretary and Literature chair Sue N. stepped down from her positions so we had to fill them. Candice volunteered to fill the Secretary Position and Rom volunteer to fill the Literature position. Sandy H. volunteer to take care of setting of Stearns county Fair Booth and also took care of ordering more literature books. Thanks to all who volunteered. Our District decided to donate 20 big books to our Area Jails and Prisons. They are Always in need of them. District 15 will be hosting a Zonal Forum along with District 3 and 4 at the Coldspring Alano Club on Sept 14th. We will be voting on new officers and chair positions at our Aug 5th meeting. Lake Henry AA Group will host their annual family summer picnic on August 11th at Lake Henry Lions Park, starting at Noon. Yours in service, Pete B., DCM District 15.

WEBMASTER-Robert (Bob) B.- Short WEB report: 1. Took a look at techsoup.org. They provide software to all "not for profit organizations" at greatly reduced administration cost. Techsoup.org appears to be a legitimate company supported by all major software companies. All not for profit companies are allowed to use their service. This could be a huge cost saving for area35 software purchases. We would have to sign up for their services prior to purchasing software. 2. As a committee we are working on simplifying the group change form. Our goal is to make it as easy as possible to update group and GSR information. 3. Group Records are maintained in the FNV database and the meeting list on our WEB site used its own database. The software on area35.org is being updated to use the FNV database. This will end the need for duplicate databases and the need to keep two databases in sync. Yours in service.

ARCHIVES-Antonette F. - Greetings from Northern Minnesota. It's hard to believe our rotation is almost complete. I was not able to attend the Area 35/36 Workshop due to work obligations. District 9 is going through some changes. In archives, district 9 Archive Chair resigned. The plus side is she donated a recorder to the District. Healthy discussion was had at AA meeting about getting back to basics and passing it on. Thank you for letting me serve. Antonette F., Area Archive Chair. At our committee meeting there were 4 present. Brad I., dist 12, 11, 9 and 21. District 21 is planning an Archives Workshop. District 12 is working on their Archives. District 11 is looking for people to spread the message. District 9 Archives chair resigned. District 8 would like help with their workshop. Brad said that he is busy, busy, busy – and he wants to place family first.

District 2- Kim B.- Absent-No Report

District 12-Servando M.- We would like to thank Jim K. for coming down and fiving a wonderful report. Dist 12 wants to recognize our new corrections chair, Bob. He has jumped in whole heartedly. We have provided more big books for our St. Louis and Douglas County jail meetings. All of our commitments are being met. Thank You for allowing me to be of service – Servando M.

ARCHIVIST-Brad I.- Archivist report 8/4/2013 Since the June Committee meeting I attended the joint Area Workshop where I attempted to set up a P.A. I had some difficulties but I fixed the issues after wards. At the Workshop I met with the Area 36 Chair and Archivist to discuss joint projects. We are planning on a joint display for the WCRAASC in St. Louis Park in March 2014. We are also doing a joint display in May 2014 in New Ulm for the Big Book Anniversary. I had to turn down an invitation for the 2014 Big Ole Round Up because it conflicts with the Service Conference. I can't be at the Duluth Round Up this year because of a family wedding. I can't be at Founders Day in Minneapolis because this year it collides with the December committee meeting. I will be attending the National A.A. Archives Workshop in Springfield IL. in September. I will have a display and give an Archives tour at the St. Cloud Round Up in October. Recent contributions to the Archives are as follows: a 1942 printing of "Alcohol Explored" by H. W. Haggard and S.E.M. Jellinek; a 1946 booklet "Alcoholism is a Sickness" produced by the Public Affairs Committee; and a 1928 yearbook of the Anti-Saloon League. I am still working on the Inventory of the Archives collection and will develop a searchable database someday. I am also still writing essays for a web Picture tour of the display. Thanks for this opportunity to be of service. Brad I. Area 35 Archivist

LITERATURE-Sean D.- Good Morning Everybody! I trust all are well and your day full of promise. I attended the 35/36 Workshop on 7/20 in St. Cloud. During this workshop I had the opportunity to visit with other grapevine & literature people to discuss best practices in both areas. Did I mention how special the grapevine is and you wonderful Grapevine Chair Corey A. is available and waiting to answer any questions for you? It is of my humble opinion that an Area rich in Grapevine subscriptions leads to expanded literature awareness and sales. All in a focused effort to help the still suffering alcoholic. At today's Grapevine and Literature Action committee meeting today, we had Dist 3, 4, 5, 6, 13 and 8. We had a robust discussion about G.V. gray pages and use of intergroup – both pro's and con's. Ordering literature online is still coming soon. Until that is available there is no change in shipping costs. The Action committee discussed excess and out of date literature on hand and has approved to have a Discounted Table of these items if approved by the committee at the Fall Assembly. Items include Cassette Tapes, VHS, earlier versions of books, service manuals, etc. And for you information – current printing of the Big book is the 30th Printing. The 31st printing has been printed but won't be available until all stock or printing is done. Bob's presentation about the meeting locator was the highlight of the workshop. What an incredible site and I appreciate Bob's time and energy on the project!!! I appreciate the opportunity to be of service! Sean D, Area 35 Literature Chair.

District 13-Scott B. - District 13 has hosted the Area 35/36 Workshop in July. I want to thank all that volunteered and who helped with this workshop. District 13 has purchased a TV and DVD for the County Fair. This project will be useful for our upcoming presentations. All time slots for our Fair Booth are full. PI is finishing up on the final draft for meeting lists. All AA phone line time slots are currently full. Treatment and Corrections are being served. Thankful to be of service, Scott B.

District 5- Heidi R. - We have been keeping busy in District 5. At our next district meeting in August we will be doing nominations for chairs and officers for District 5. We plan to vote for the positions at our September district meeting. At our July 15th district meeting, Jim gave his delegate report and did a great job! I did feel bad because both times he gave his report eh location had no air conditioning and Jim was all dressed up in his suit and tie. Our District has voted to increase the budget for the Literature Chair from \$150 to \$200. We have also decided to not have a booth at the Mille Lacs County Fair due to the requirement of having liability insurance. Our Corrections Chair has recently stepped down from the position so we will be discussing this at our next district meeting. I need to send a big thanks to Skip, the Area 35 Corrections chair and member of District 5 for helping us with the Sherburne County Jail. He has been taking care of the schedule and contacting the coordinator for the jail. Without his help, we could have lost the jail meetings for both the men and women. From our district inventory we have decided to make AA responsibilities/guidelines for all of the district positions to assist the next rotation. We are also in the process of creating a District 5 Actions Booklet. We are currently in another rotation of the Sherburne County Probation Orientation Meeting. This is an 8 week program where people on probation learn about the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. We still continue to have a meeting a month going into two treatment centers. I continue to work with Sandy, the Area 35 Group Records Secretary, in updating group information. Yours in service, Heidi

TREATMENT-Randy A. - We met this morning as a committee with 7 people in attendance. Margie in District 14 stated that they are consulting with the Treatment counselor at Pineville Treatment Facility in restarting a meeting. She brought the issue up to the district and because of lack of interest, decided not to commit. Ideas were discussed how to generate enthusiasm and different approaches such as sponsorship how to get people to commit. Dist 7 had 3 representatives present – Sarah, Tim and Neil. They are carrying the message into the Mash-Ka-Wiscn Treatment Center in Sawyer (Which is technically in District 12) bringing a Big Book meeting into the facility. They are also looking for sponsorship contacts for the facility. Topics for discussion were: How to get involvement for treatment commitments, DVI Clinic hosted by Treatment Centers and issues of anonymity issues and concerns by AA members. We attended the Area 35/36 Joint Workshop on St. Cloud and gave an update on Treatment and also chaired the Treatment Breakout Session which had only 3 members

from Area 35 in Attendance. I had correspondence with the new Area 36 Treatment Chair and she was unable to attend. We had 3 “Bridging the Gap” contacts for the past month from the Minneapolis Intergroup. They currently have 27 volunteers serving at the temporary contact desk. Hopefully, there will be improved communication and action by both areas in the next rotation, we always encourage participation to serve on committees. Yours in Service, Randy A., Area 35 Treatment Chair.

District 1-Irene J. - Greetings from district 1! We hold our district meeting the second Sunday of every even month at 7:00 pm at the Fertile Community Center. On Sunday, June 9th we held a joint workshop with district 2, Jim K presented a slide show presentation on his attendance at New York delegate convention. Between the 2 Districts about 15 or so attended. Everyone who attended found it educational and were glad that they came. Afterwards, we held our general business meeting and about 8 attended. District 1 had an unmanned AA Booth at the Polk County Fair, Fertile, MN. Thank You to Amy H. and Kristy P. for setting the booth up and Dave T. for taking it down. So, our upcoming events with the District: 6th Annual summer wild rice round-up – August 16, 17 & 18th, Sandhill Bible Camp, 6 miles south of Fosston, MN – registration, meet and greet start at 3pm on Friday. District 1’s End of Summer Get Together on Sept 14, 2013, Farmer’s Union Campgrounds – Erskin, MN at 4:00 pm. Pot-luck, Breakout session and ending with an open AA bon fire – weather permitting. We will be holding our next District meeting Sunday, August 11th at 2:00 pm at the Fertile Community Center. Sunday, October 13th meeting we will be holding elections for the up-coming term. Please make sure your groups are there to represent you. Yours in service – Irene J., District 1 DCM.

District 7-Neil F. - Greetings from District 7. District 7 meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the United Congregational Church in Brainerd from 7-8:30pm. Our next meeting will be on August 15th. The District has been active in service work; recent events include attending a transition fair at Crow Wing County Jail in June and putting on an informational booth at the Crow Wing County Fair. I would like to thank Arden and Tim for working the Transition Fair and Mark for handling the AA booth at the fair. Plus all other volunteers who helped ensure the booth was kept orderly and stocked with literature. We should have a report soon on how much literature was given out. I’m happy to report we had 3 new GSR’s attend our July 18th District Meeting. Welcome to Johnny from Palisades, Paul from Big Sandy and Aaron from Saturday Night up Front. I believe we had 13 GSR’s total and 2 absentee reports from GSR’s not able to attend which is very encouraging. We have begun discussing interest for the district positions for our elections to be held in October after the Fall Assembly, and we have several individuals express willingness to stand. Our Meet and Greet event was rained out on July 24th but rescheduled for August 25th – rain or shine! The District recently began discussing a Concept and tradition at our meeting and this has been a great addition. We are working on scheduling a Sponsorship Workshop in October, we’d like to have it right here in Aitkin if the board will approve our use of the facility. Thank you for allowing me to serve. Neil, DCM

PI-Robert (Butch) R.- PI and CPC met this morning with District 3,5,6,8,1 & 14 in attendance. We shared what we are doing going to do in our respective positions and districts. The State Fair is set and I am looking forward to taking part. It’s a rewarding experience; I’d like to report that the Fon Du Lac Radio Station is now airing AA PSA’s. Once again, I attended the Area 35 and 36 Joint Workshop in St. Cloud. There were some great presentations and sharing information and ideas with Southern Minnesota. The County Fair Booths seem to be a problem, some are manned and some are unmanned. Booths and insurance requirements are a big problem, as groups can’t afford insurance.. I am registered and will attend the upcoming Forum next month. Thanks to the DCM’s that supplies meeting schedules. They will be available at the State Fair Booth. Looking forward to this coming weekend as it is the Keep it simple Weekend at Camp Chicagami near Eveleth, MN There are Flyers on the Back Table. This is a weekend with good speakers, lots of fun and fellowship – come and join us! In Service, Butch R.

District 3-Jim S.- I’d like to thank Jim K. for giving his Delegate report at our District Meeting. I’d also like to thank Bob B. for helping us with our district website. He did a great job, go to dist3a.org and you can see for yourself. We elected a new PI/CPC and she’s doing a great job. We recently completed a Round-up Inventory and went over the results and will implement the ideas next year. We are fulfilling our Corrections and Treatment obligations. We had low attendance at our last district meeting which is worry-some since elections will be coming up in the near future. Hopefully we can get our positions filled for 2014-2015. I apologize for my absence the past two committee meetings. Yours in service, Jim S.

District 6-David A.- Hi everyone. My name is Dave A and I am an alcoholic and the DCM for District 6. I just received some more correspondence from Sandy H. It’s a good thing someone is giving me a little push every once in a while. Everything here is normal! At our last District 6 meeting we had some discussions about our Treasurer because he had missed a number of our meetings and the reports have been few and far apart. I know of about three checks that Group Treasurers have said did not clear or show up on their bank account. It was my feeling that we should take some kind of action at that time but I was not in the majority. Since that time I have found a quote of Dr. Bob that says, “No one of us wishes to do anything which might act as a deterrent to the advancement of another – and a patronizing attitude can readily slow up this process.” I hope that I am not crossing that line. It was decided that I should make contact with him and find out what the situation is. I tried to contact him a couple of times and the person answering the phone said that they would find out if he was available and the return was that he was not available. After a couple of days I received an e-mail with a brief Treasurer report which listed three checks that needed to be deposited and what the new back balance would be. I sent a reply that I still needed to talk with him which we could do a couple of days later. When I did finally get to have contact with him he said that he had some bad news, and that was before he got to the bank the nanny goat got into the house and ate everything it could get at including the three checks that at that time had not yet been deposited. OK! As it says in the Big Book, “Don’t see anything the matter here, Ma. Ain’t it grand the wind stopped blowin’?” Everything is normal here! Thank You! Dave A.

OLD BUSINESS

2014-2015 Delegate Resumes – The resumes are in the Northern Light. October is our Fall Assembly so make sure your groups review the Delegates and let your DCM’s and GSR’s know who your group wants you to vote for.

Fall Assembly – Roberts Rules of Order Presentation by Bruce B. – Because it was suggested at our Fall Assembly in International Falls that the Area should review Robert’s Rules of Order. Bruce B. has volunteered to present on Saturday evening everything you need to know about Roberts Rules of Order – Please consider attending this as it should be informative and helpful to those of us who lead and attend Group, District and Area meetings.

West Central Regional Forum-Deadline for lower motel rates is tomorrow. The Forum will be informative and attendance is free – you can register on-line for the Forum and reservations will be taken right up to the day of the WCRF

Minnesota State Fair AA Booth Update- the State Fair is covered and there was one glitch which is the State Fair is now non-smoking. The closest smoking area is out the door and across the street from the education building where the AA Booth is situated. So if you smoke, you don’t have far to walk...

Financial Oversight Committee Report- Pete gave the report that Sarah wrote as she had to leave. The financial oversight committee met and everything was reported accurately. The Area Balance as of July 31st is \$26,994.06. The financial committee reviewed and cross referenced bank statements for June and July of 2013 to verify that all deposits and expenses were accurately reported. Thank You for letting us be of service.

Statewide Corrections Committee Update- Skip presented that on June 13th that he met with Area 36. If you sign up you need 2 years sobriety off probation. If you sign up to write a prisoner in a prison, you might not be able to meet with AA’s in prison. AA needs more volunteers for the prisons to write letters or be a contact when they are released from prison. On the 15th of July they met up again and talked more about the 35/36 Workshop. Mary M would like feedback on the Workshop

AA Meeting Locator Adhoc Committee Report- Everyone was asked to review the website and take this back to their groups and start using the new website. It still has to be approved by both Southern and Northern Minnesota. We support \$120.00 a year to be paid to Southern Minnesota to support the website. Bob’s new website will be \$60.00 a year for each area to pay per year, so it won’t be any more expensive. Bob would like to propose that we use this. Currently AA Meeting Locator is owned by a private company who is an AA member but doesn’t attend AA events. Bob feels that this site should be responsive to the public and to the people who uses it. Someone who has their finger on the pulse of the AA program activities, groups and area events. Bob wrote up a proposal for DCM’s to take back to their districts and talk about AA Meeting Locator. Ask your District what do the groups want?

We are working on a lite version of the new aameetinglocator software. The lite version will run on cell phones. We will be able to find meetings bases on location. The lite version will be optimized to run on cell phones. The new aameetinglocator is ready for review. It can be seen and used at www.aaminnesota.org. At our fall assembly we will be voting on.

- a. Using the new web site
- b. Financial support for the new web site
- c. 2 year temporary support plan
- d. Allowing other West Central Regional area to join our WEB site yours in service, Bob B.

NEW BUSINESS

Area 35/36 Workshop Report- The bill from the church was \$225.00 for church rental, \$96.40 food and \$10.50 to print the agendas, we collected in the Basket \$104.30, So the total cost to each Area was \$113.80. One idea that came out of this meeting was to form a financial committee for the events that we participate in together. Missy from Area 36 and Kelly from Area 35 will be getting together and discussing the practicalities of putting together a committee. We could try to help each other with finances in the state. For instance, the event that was in Duluth. The event actually took place in Area 35, but involved Area 36. Another example would be with Corrections. They use the Pink Can and we don't. We'll also look at the State Fair and those expenses. 71 in attendance. Most of the attendee's were all active service people. 3-4 were marked as "other". The incoming chair will organize the next workshop. Area 35 doesn't like having this workshop in summer and Area 36 doesn't like having the workshop in the Fall. The majority of participants were from Area 36. The Workshop is a good idea, but difficult to organize.

St. Louis County Conference – Roger, CPC Chair for Area 35- The St. Louis County Health and Human Service Conference have an exhibition hall for vendors and other organizations. This will take place in October. The exhibit hall is very busy. Approximately 2000 health and human service professions gather for training. CPC tries to carry the message to Professionals who will then carry the message to the people who need these services to their clients and consumers. We have some literature left over but we might need approximately \$500.00 in expenses to cover costs. Booth rental is \$200.00. Roger also will drive to Duluth and spend the night. It will take place in October and after the Assembly. It will be a major CPC event. Roger made a motion that Area 35 invest \$500.00 in St. Louis County Health and Human Services Exposition Exhibit. ... Motion was made and seconded. Discussion One question was if this should be brought to the home groups before we vote on this idea. We spend \$500.00 a year for the Minnesota State Fair, and if this can reach so many people, it seems like it's a good idea. So would \$500.00 be enough money. 3 Districts have agreed to help and then the Districts would spend the money rather than the area for the people who travel from the 3 districts involved Area Officers, Area Committee Chairs and DCM's vote. A vote taken by raising hands and the motion passed.

Northern Light and Bulk Mailing Permit Clarification – Sandy wonders if this should be brought up at the Fall Assembly... should we allow other groups that are AA affiliated, like various Round-Ups, use the bulk mailing permit that we now, have no control over. The issue is the result of a recent mix up with the bulk mailing permit. A round-up sent flyers to the Post Office asking to use the Area 5 bulk mailing permit. Northern Minnesota Area Assembly no longer has a bulk mailing permit. Cold Spring Record has the bulk mailing permit and we pay them to mail our Northern Light Newsletter now. Do we need to tell other round-ups to use their own permits or purchase their own stamps? Sandy didn't know which round-up used the Cold Spring Record's bulk mailing to send their flyers. She wasn't aware that it happened until after the fact. Historically, in 1988 Area 35 obtained a bulk mailing permit. Once the permit was obtained it was used to mail Northern Light. The area decided in 1988 that other AA events could use the bulk mailing permit for their postage. Now we have entered into a relationship with an organization that does the bulk mailing for us. Outside round-ups must not know about the recent changes. Sandy cannot stress enough that Area 35 no longer has a bulk mailing permit. Area 35 got rid of the Waite Park mailing permit. Now, the Cold Springs Record holds the permit for mailing. If you want your flyer sent inside a Northern Light, you still send or give the flyers to the Area 35 Group Records Secretary and a \$75.00 check to the Area 35 treasurer. To move forward from this situation, the Area should let their respective round-ups know that if they have a flyer they want included in the Northern Light bulk mailing, they should send their flyers to the Group Records Secretary and the \$75.00 Check to Treasurer.

Calendar of events:

1. West Central Regional Forum – September 6-8, 2014 – Double Tree Hilton, Bloomington, MN
2. Area 35 Fall Assembly - October 5th & 6th, 2013 – Holiday Inn, Detroit Lakes, MN
3. Area Committee Meeting, Sunday, December 1, 2013, Aitkin Alano Club
4. 38th Annual Area 35 Service Workshop, January 18 & 19, 2014, Days Inn, Moorhead, Mn
5. Area 35 Spring Assembly, April 5th & 6th, 2014 – Holiday Inn, Duluth, MN
6. Area 35 Fall Assembly, October 4th & 5th, 2014 – Sawmill Inn, Grand Rapids, MN

Other events in Area 35:

1. 34th Annual Keep it Simple Weekend, August 9-11th, Camp Chicagami – South of Eveleth, MN
2. 23rd Annual Heartland Round-Up, Sept 6-8, 2013, Park Rapids, MN
3. Service Workshop, Oct 26, 2013 – Our Saviors Lutheran Church, Virginia, MN

Adjourned

2013 – AREA 35 SCHEDULE

You can find out more about events on area35.org

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

Holiday Inn
1155 Hwy 10 E.
Detroit Lakes, MN

Area Committee Meeting - Sunday, Dec. 1st - 9:00 am

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

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

Holiday Inn
200 West 1st St.
Duluth, MN

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

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

| September 2013 | | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|-------------------------------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| 1 | 2 Labor Day | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 Grandparent's Day | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 Fall Begins | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | U.S. Federal Holidays are Red |

| October 2013 | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|---------|-----------|-----------------|--------|-------------------------------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 Columbus Day Thanksgiving Canceled | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 Halloween | | U.S. Federal Holidays are Red |

Upcoming Events in Areas 35 & 36

Note: Area 35 events take precedence!

Duluth Roundup

68th Annual Duluth Round Up
September 20th, 21st & 22nd
Marshall High School
1215 Rice Lake Road
Duluth, MN
www.duluthroundup.org

Districts 8-9-14-16 Service Workshop

“Unity & Responsibility” Service Workshop
Oct. 26, 2013
Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
1111 8th St. S
Virginia MN
7:00pm AA OPEN SPEAKER MEETING
Jim K. (Our Area 35 Delegate)

St. Cloud Roundup

October 25-27, 2013
River Edge Convention Center
10 Fourth Ave S.
St. Cloud, MN
www.stcloudroundup.org

Founders Day Weekend LXXIII

November 29th, 30th, & Dec 31st, 2013
Doubletree Park Hotel
St. Louis Park MN
For Info: PO Box 8327
Minneapolis, MN 55408-9998
www.FOUNDERSDAYMN.ORG

NORTHERN LIGHT PRIMARY PURPOSE:

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

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

EDITORIAL POSITION & N.L. COMMITTEE:

Editor - Editor - The Editorial Chair position is a two-year rotation picked by the incoming Area Chair and either approved or rejected by the Area Committee at the first Area meeting after the Fall Assembly Elections.

Desirable qualifications: Current or past working knowledge of the printing business. Knowledge of current computer printing programs. The person should also consider the time needed to complete the task required. The candidate should have a working knowledge of A.A. as a whole, i.e., prior experience in service work such as G.S.R., D.C.M., or related position.

N.L. Committee - The N.L. Committee consists of two D.C.M.s in Area 35. Currently, these have been picked randomly at the start of the new rotation. They also serve on a two-year rotation basis. They assist the editor in communications with other area newsletters, in recommendations on general improvements, and with general problems and implementations of new policies. They may also represent the editor at functions when the editor is unable to attend. Seek advice and help from former N.L. Committee members and editors.

N.L. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

The Committee meets every other month before the start of the Area Workshop and at Spring and Fall Assemblies. Additional meetings may be called for if needed between these times.

Twelve Concepts for World Service (Short Form)

- I. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
- II. The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.
- III. To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.”
- IV. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in a reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.
- V. Throughout our structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.
- VI. The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.
- VII. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon traditional and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.
- VIII. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.
- IX. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.
- X. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.
- XI. The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.
- XII. The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

