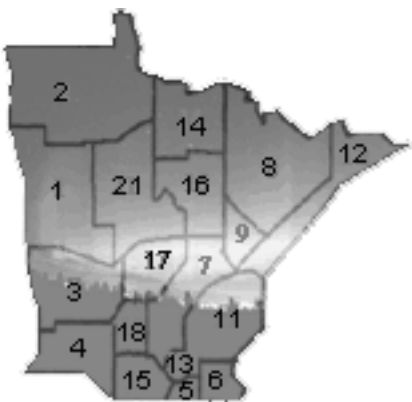


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US POSTAGE  
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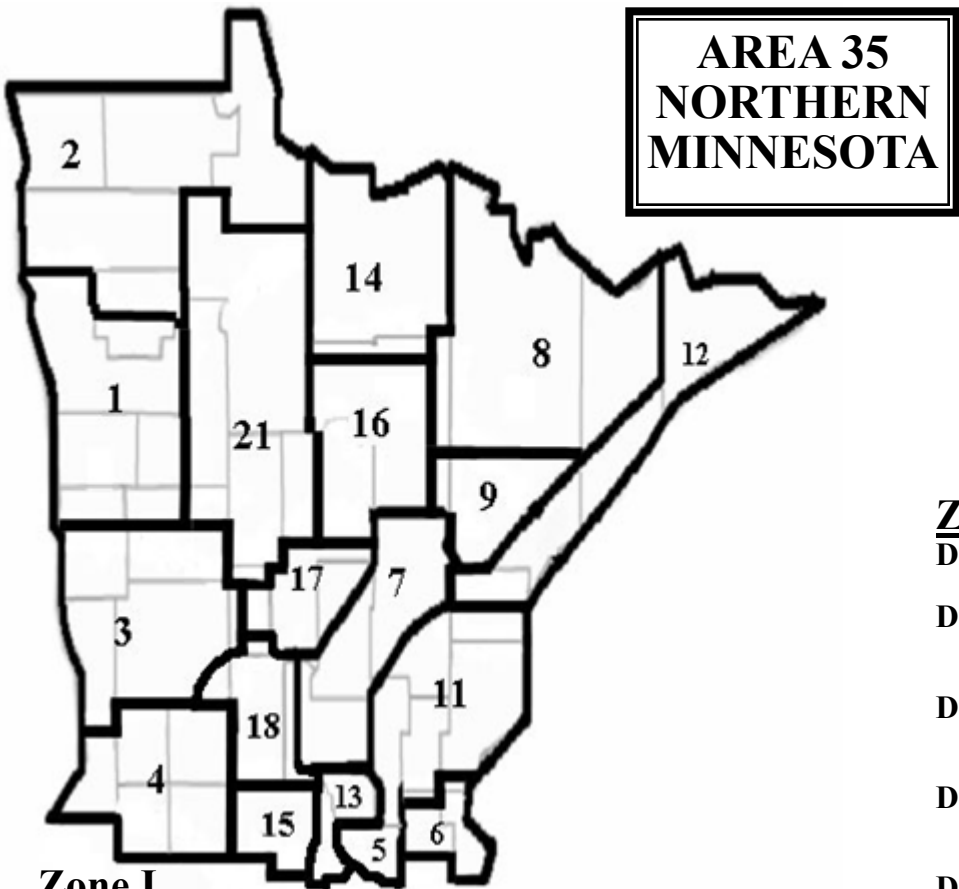
Deadline for the next  
*Northern Light* is  
**September 6th, 2014**

This is YOUR Newsletter.

Please send your questions or comments for publication to  
Rodney S. at [NorthernLight@area35.org](mailto: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  
NORTHERN  
MINNESOTA

TABLE of CONTENTS: pg:

Area 35 Map with Zonal & District Delineations ..... 2  
District Meeting Locations ..... 2  
Area 35 Committee, i.e. Area Officers, Area Chairs, DCM’s .... 3  
Past Area 35 Delegates ..... 4  
Area 35 Officer Reports ..... 5,6  
Area 35 Chair Reports ..... 7-9  
Unapproved Area 35 Committee Minutes ..... 10-16  
Articles ..... 16  
Self-Support Flyer ..... 17  
Miscellaneous Northern Light information ..... 18  
Area 35 Schedule ..... 19  
Upcoming Events ( Areas 35 & 36) ..... 19  
August Area 35 Committee Meeting Agenda ..... 20

Zone I

- District 1** - Ada, Crookston, Erskine, Fertile, Fosston, Mahanomen, 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, Rush City  
**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, Waukon  
**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, Clarissa, 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, Littlefork

*\* 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**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Odd Months, 2:00 p.m.  
First Lutheran Church  
210 Park Ave. N.  
Middle River, MN 56737  
**District 3**  
3<sup>rd</sup> 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**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of Month, 7 p.m.  
Freshwaters Church  
12475 273rd Ave NW  
Zimmerman, MN 55398  
**District 6**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of Month, 7:30 p.m.  
Spring Lake Lutheran Church  
8440 Erickson Rd. N.E.  
North Branch, MN 55056

- District 7**  
3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Hibbing, MN 55746  
**District 11**  
1<sup>st</sup> 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**  
2<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Month, 5:30 Committee Meeting  
6:00 p.m. District Meeting  
Alano Club  
410 5th Ave  
International Falls, MN 56649  
**District 15**  
1<sup>st</sup> 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. 8<sup>th</sup> 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**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 7:00 p.m.  
Bemidji Alano Club  
3802 Greenleaf Ave NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
**District 17**  
Not currently active or unknown

AREA 35 COMMITTEE 2014

<b>AREA OFFICERS</b>	<b>WEBMASTER</b>	<b>DISTRICT 12</b>
<b>DELEGATE</b>	SANDY H.	RILLIS E.
MICHAEL “JAKE” J.	<a href="mailto:webmaster@area35.org">webmaster@area35.org</a>	<a href="mailto:dcm12@area35.org">dcm12@area35.org</a>
<a href="mailto:delegate@area35.org">delegate@area35.org</a>	<b>GROUP RECORDS</b>	<b>DISTRICT 13</b>
<b>ALTERNATE DELEGATE</b>	ROLENE L.	CHRISTINE G.
KELLY D.	<a href="mailto:grouprecords@area35.org">grouprecords@area35.org</a>	<a href="mailto:dcm13@area35.org">dcm13@area35.org</a>
<a href="mailto:Alt_delegate@area35.org">Alt_delegate@area35.org</a>	<b>NORTHERN LIGHT</b>	<b>DISTRICT 14</b>
<b>AREA CHAIR</b>	RODNEY S.	DEB A.
SARAH K.	<a href="mailto:northernlight@area35.org">northernlight@area35.org</a>	<a href="mailto:dcm14@area35.org">dcm14@area35.org</a>
<a href="mailto:areachair@area35.org">areachair@area35.org</a>	<b>DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>	<b>DISTRICT 15</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>(D.C.M.s)</b>	MELISSA M.
RANDY A.	<b>DISTRICT 1</b>	<a href="mailto:dcm15@area35.org">dcm15@area35.org</a>
<a href="mailto:treasurer@area35.org">treasurer@area35.org</a>	JON S.	<b>DISTRICT 16</b>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<a href="mailto:dcm1@area35.org">dcm1@area35.org</a>	GRIFFIN M.
ROGER R.	<b>DISTRICT 2</b>	<a href="mailto:dcm16@area35.org">dcm16@area35.org</a>
<a href="mailto:secretary@area35.org">secretary@area35.org</a>	MICHAEL H.	<b>DISTRICT 18</b>
<b>AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRS</b>	<a href="mailto:dcm2@area35.org">dcm2@area35.org</a>	NEIL R.
<b>PUBLIC INFORMATION</b>	<b>DISTRICT 3</b>	<a href="mailto:dcm18@area35.org">dcm18@area35.org</a>
JEFF C.	STEVE D.	<b>DISTRICT 21</b>
<a href="mailto:pi@area35.org">pi@area35.org</a>	<a href="mailto:dcm3@area35.org">dcm3@area35.org</a>	IRV R.
<b>ARCHIVES</b>	<b>DISTRICT 4</b>	<a href="mailto:dcm21@area35.org">dcm21@area35.org</a>
PETE B.	REY F.	<b>DISTRICT 17</b>
<a href="mailto:archives@area35.org">archives@area35.org</a>	<a href="mailto:dcm4@area35.org">dcm4@area35.org</a>	
<b>ARCHIVIST</b>	<b>DISTRICT 5</b>	
BRAD I.	DEAN M.	
<a href="mailto:archivist@area35.org">archivist@area35.org</a>	<a href="mailto:dcm5@area35.org">dcm5@area35.org</a>	
<b>CORRECTIONS</b>	<b>DISTRICT 6</b>	
SKIP D.	GARRETT B.	
<a href="mailto:corrections@area35.org">corrections@area35.org</a>	<a href="mailto:dcm6@area35.org">dcm6@area35.org</a>	
<b>LITERATURE</b>	<b>DISTRICT 7</b>	
JIM S.	CARL P.	
<a href="mailto:literature@area35.org">literature@area35.org</a>	<a href="mailto:dcm7@area35.org">dcm7@area35.org</a>	
<b>GRAPEVINE</b>	<b>DISTRICT 8</b>	
ANTONETTE F.	JERY B.	
<a href="mailto:grapevine@area35.org">grapevine@area35.org</a>	<a href="mailto:dcm8@area35.org">dcm8@area35.org</a>	
<b>COOPERATION WITH THE</b>	<b>DISTRICT 9</b>	
<b>PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (C.P.C.)</b>	FRED H.	
SERVANDO M.	<a href="mailto:dcm9@area35.org">dcm9@area35.org</a>	
<a href="mailto:cpc@area35.org">cpc@area35.org</a>	<b>DISTRICT 11</b>	
<b>TREATMENT</b>	BILL C.	
PAUL M.	<a href="mailto:dcm11@area35.org">dcm11@area35.org</a>	
<a href="mailto:treatment@area35.org">treatment@area35.org</a>		

**MOVING? ADDRESS NOT CORRECT?**

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

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

[GroupRecords@area35.org](mailto:GroupRecords@area35.org)

AREA 35 EVENTS  
INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

- ◆ Area Chair calls to cancel and/or re-schedule.
- ◆ Based on DOT report, national weather service, individual safety being paramount
- ◆ Chair asks for weather reports from all DCM’s from respective districts either by email or phone for those that don’t have computers.
- ◆ Chair notifies the Alano society in Aitkin on food preparations and possible re-schedule to following Sunday.
- ◆ Chair contacts webmaster results put on Area 35.org and reschedule date and time.
- ◆ Districts contact their DCM in inclement weather for updates on cancellation.
- ◆ Post procedure in Northern Lights.
- ◆ 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.

AREA 35 EVENTS  
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

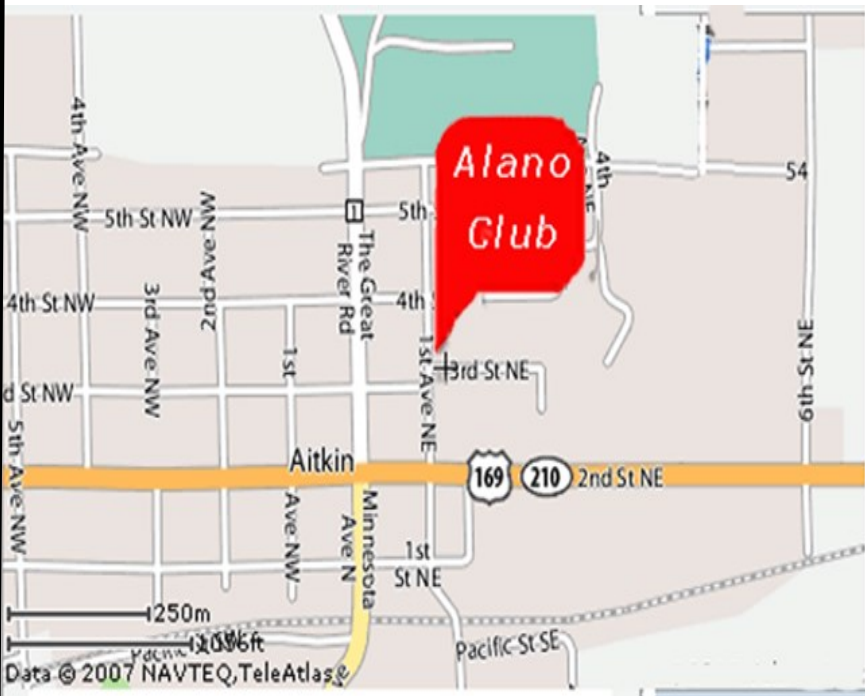
**Where is the Aitkin Alano Club?**

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!**



OUR PAST DELEGATES

<b>Panel 62</b> Jim K.	<b>2012-2013</b>	<b>Panel 26</b> Vern R. (deceased)	<b>1976-1977</b>	<b>Panel 2</b> Arthur R. (deceased)	<b>1952-1953</b>
<b>Panel 60</b> Jon C.	<b>2010-2011</b>				
<b>Panel 58</b> JoAnne M.	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>Panel 24</b> Gordon B. H.	<b>1974-1975</b>		
<b>Panel 56</b> Jerry S.	<b>2006-2007</b>	<b>Panel 22</b> Frank P. J. (deceased)	<b>1972-1973</b>		
<b>Panel 54</b>  Charlie C.	<b>2004-2005</b>				
<b>Panel 52</b> Tim C.	<b>2002-2003</b>	<b>Panel 20</b> Clarence B. (deceased)	<b>1970-1971</b>		
<b>Panel 50</b> Tom A.	<b>2000-2001</b>	<b>Panel 18</b> Dave H. (deceased)	<b>1968-1969</b>		
<b>Panel 48</b> Susie A.	<b>1998-1999</b>				
<b>Panel 46</b> Bill P.	<b>1996-1997</b>	<b>Panel 16</b> Arno A. (deceased)	<b>1966-1967</b>		
<b>Panel 44</b> Bruce B.	<b>1994-1995</b>	<b>Panel 14</b> Donald F. (deceased)	<b>1964-1965</b>		
<b>Panel 42</b> Greg G. (deceased)	<b>1992-1993</b>				
<b>Panel 40</b> Bob J.	<b>1990-1991</b>	<b>Panel 12</b> Donna T. (deceased)	<b>1962-1963</b>		
<b>Panel 38</b> Scott J.	<b>1988-1989</b>	<b>Panel 10</b> Bob B. (deceased)	<b>1960-1961</b>		
<b>Panel 36</b> Louie H.	<b>1986-1987</b>				
<b>Panel 34</b> Bob P.	<b>1984-1985</b>	<b>Panel 8</b> Pearl N. (deceased)	<b>1958-1959</b>		
<b>Panel 32</b> Tom L.	<b>1982-1983</b>	<b>Panel 6</b> Waldo H. (deceased)	<b>1956-1957</b>		
<b>Panel 30</b> Don M. (deceased)	<b>1981-1982</b>				
<b>Panel 28</b> Garfield (Duffy) S. (deceased)	<b>1978-1979</b>	<b>Panel 4</b> Wendell H. (deceased)	<b>1954-1955</b>		

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)



## OFFICER REPORTS

### DELEGATE'S REPORT

Greetings, fellow AA members in Area 35 and beyond.

I hope you have been enjoying this unpredictable summer. Just like life, it throws us unexpected rainfalls and sunshine. Many of you have been in my thoughts as you go through your trials. God bless. It has been a busy and exciting summer filled with reports back, good food and great fellowship. Although I have not been able to make some of the events I would have liked to attend, those I made I enjoyed. Sharing with districts in Virginia, Grand Rapids, out west to Erskine, north to the falls, down to Long Lake and Brainerd and finishing at the time of this report in Finlayson. I have met some great people and shared good food. While most report backs have been lightly attended, at each there was a mix of service people and other members (including one from Arizona) that attended and shared their interest in what is happening in AA. Thanks to all that have participated and those that are yet to have reports. May the interest in our fellowship continue to grow and lives be changed.

I have talked with members about agenda items, my experience as a delegate (still new), and my thoughts and concerns for our fellowship. Areas like safety in our meetings, costs that are affecting some groups (such as liability insurance and taxes) and the overall care that we have for each other in our meetings and especially our home groups. Unity and singleness of purpose needs to be talked about. We are a fellowship that is so much more than attending a meeting once a week. Let us serve each other as God would have us serve. May you all find peace and happiness on your journey in AA.

In Love and Service,  
Michael (Jake)

### ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT

Greetings Area 35.

Hope you are all enjoying your summer months here in northern Minnesota, it is hard to believe that it will be over soon. When I attended our last Area 35 Committee Meeting in June Jake, our Delegate, gave his report back from the General Service Conference that he attended in April. I then attended it again with my home District 5 and District 6 on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Thanks Jake, for your commitment to serve. Shortly after I was reading one of my favorite books "As Bill Sees It" and read the letter Bill wrote to us the A.A. fellowship at the end of this book. I wanted to share it with all of you. It reads as follows:

Dear Friends:

Since 1938, the greatest part of my A.A. life has been spent in helping create, design, manage, and insure the solvency and effectiveness of A.A.'s world services--the office of which has enabled our Fellowship to function all over the globe, and as a unified whole.

It is no exaggeration to say that, under their trustees, these all important services have accounted for much of our present size and over-all effectiveness.

The A.A. General Service Office is by far the largest single carrier of the A.A. message. It has well related A.A. to the troubled world in which we live. It has fostered the spread of our Fellowship everywhere. A.A. World Service Inc., stands ready to serve the special needs of any group or isolated individual, no matter the distance or language. Its many years of accumulated experience are available to us all.

The members of our trusteeship-the General Service Board of A.A. - will in the future, be our *primary leaders in all of our world affairs*. This high responsibility has long since been delegated to them; they are the successors in world services to Dr. Bob and to me, and they are directly accountable to A.A. as a whole.

This is the legacy of world-service responsibility that we vanishing old-timers are leaving to you, the A.A.'s of today and tomorrow. We know that you will guard, support, and cherish this

world legacy as the greatest collective responsibility that A.A. has or ever can have.

*Yours in trust, and in affection, Bill.*

What a powerful writing to us from Bill! His words had a great impact on me personally as I thought of the work that is done at our General Service Office today and every day to carry the A.A. message of hope to suffering alcoholics worldwide. I also thought of the service work that we are a part of here in Area 35, and the passion and love that we share together for Alcoholics Anonymous carrying that message. Thank you all for your commitment to be of service! I am truly grateful for all of you and the opportunity that God has given me to be a part of this wonderful fellowship with you, living one day at a time on this journey we call life.

Grateful to be of service,  
Kelly D. Alternate Delegate

### AREA CHAIR'S REPORT

Hello! I hope your summer is finding you well! On June 7th I presented on the Traditions at a Singleness of Purpose workshop in Bemidji along with Roger R. and Bob B. of the Area, and a couple local AA members. It was a good turnout and we had great participation and questions. I have also been communicating with Area Chairs and DCMs since the June Area Meeting via email with suggestions and reminders for carrying the message and meeting the needs of the Districts (a copy of this correspondence is included below).

A DCM and I were recently discussing a great request for a GSR Service School. We talked about some ideas and came up with the following. I thought it might be worth including in the Northern Light, with the hopes that it will give the Area chairs, DCMs and AA members some ideas on how the Area Action committee can be of service to the Districts. I'd love to hear your own brilliant plans/ideas too! Feel free to send me emails or call regarding any ideas or questions you have. Possible Service Event ideas: It would be good to have around 4-5 people present at one event. You could have each presenter invited talk for a select time and then provide time for questions and answers. Some options for what Area Officers could do: we can share our experience on traditions, concepts, service work, troubleshooting service issues, encouraging the seventh tradition, etc. Then, we could be joined by (select) Area Committee Chairs who can share how to carry the message through their respective committee work (e.g. CPC chair could talk about what is a CPC event, what would it look like, what information would you want (they may even provide a model (CPC) event). So, it might look like this: 2-3 area officers at one event along with 2 area action chairs to present. Then next year or at another event you could have more area committee chairs present. One option is to have group themes.

As for specific presentation ideas, I am sure the individual chairs will have their own wonderful ideas (feel free to contact them and ask!), but it might be something like:

1. **CPC and PI** present together - they could do brief informational sessions on how to work with professionals and do PI work locally. There could be time also for a model CPC/PI event to give members ideas on what they could do at their own CPC luncheons/dinners/events. There are some great ideas that could be used for connecting with DUI/Drug Court Professionals: [http://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/mg-05\\_coopwithcourt.pdf](http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/mg-05_coopwithcourt.pdf) and some great suggestions on anonymity: [http://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/pressmedia/p-47-understanding-anonymity](http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/pressmedia/p-47-understanding-anonymity) and
2. **Treatment and Corrections** - they could do a presentation on carrying the message into these facilities, what to expect, and how to honor our traditions while cooperating with our friends. There are sample presentations members can put on for treatment professionals: [http://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/smf-126\\_en.pdf](http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/smf-126_en.pdf) or a presentation for patients in treatment facilities: [http://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/smf-128\\_en.pdf](http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/smf-128_en.pdf)
3. **Archives, GV and Literature** - these could join any/all of the above events too! It is always relevant to know

(officer reports > Area Chair report continued)

our history and learn about our meeting in print and literature! The GV also has some great material for use understanding the Traditions that could be used in a presentation: [http://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/smf-131\\_en.pdf](http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/smf-131_en.pdf)

4. **Web, group records, northern light, webmaster & web tech**-they can present on the Area website, district webpages, phone lines/contacts, anonymity in a digital age/on the internet: [http://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/mg-18\\_internet.pdf](http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/mg-18_internet.pdf)

Your local districts could start with one of the above groups at this event. Maybe one that the district is struggling with, or most interested in! It would be great to get other districts nearby involved in the event too. The more the merrier!

Finally, I am working on establishing locations for upcoming area events. At all events you will have the option of a smoking room if the facility still has such things! You can always share rooms, but know that some facilities will charge \$10 per additional person beyond 2 in a room. The following is a list of scheduled events/locations and ones we are working on. If you are in any of the following Districts and have any ideas, locally, for facilities with large meeting rooms that could hold and sleep at least 150 people, please let me know!

- **Spring Assembly 2015** will be held April 11 & 12 (due to Easter falling on the first weekend in April) at the Best Western in Fergus Falls.
- **Fall Assembly, Oct. 3-4, 2015-** Zone III. District 13: Working on a possible location in the St. Cloud Area. Also heard of a location (camp) in Little Falls from a local member...waiting to hear more details on this. \*\*Election Assembly registration will be closer to 200.
- **Spring Assembly, April 2-3, 2016,** Zone 1. District 1: Crookston (looking at the Crookston Inn) or Grand Forks.
- **Fall Assembly, Oct. 1-2, 2016,** Zone II. District 4: Alexandria. Then check Morris.
- **Spring Assembly, April 1-2, 2017,** Zone III. Focus on cities in Districts 5, 6 and 11. e.g. Elk River, Zimmerman, Cambridge, Hinckley.

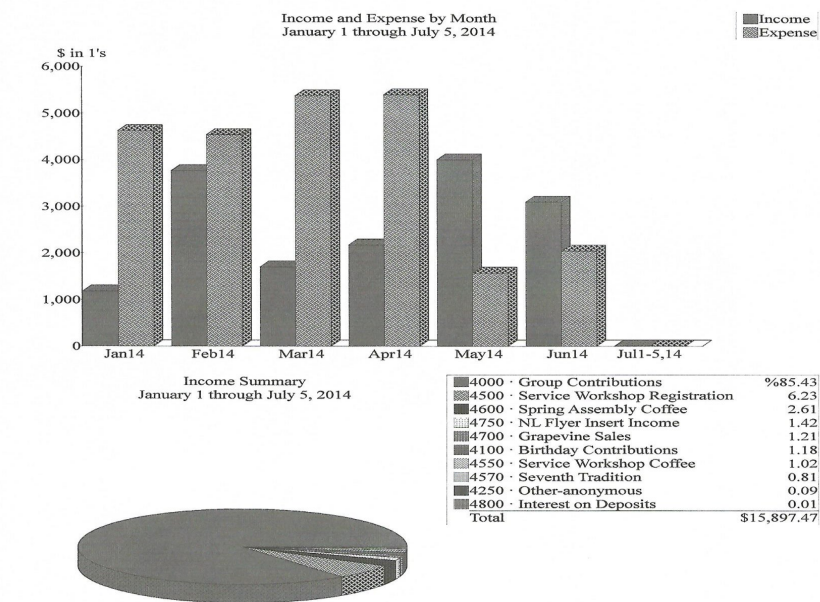
Gratefully yours in service,  
Sarah.

TREASURER’S REPORT

It has been a very wet summer and there has been lots of extra-curricular activities going on outside of AA. It is a good thing to have other activities in life to fulfill the enjoyment of our sobriety. Nonetheless, we have visited other group meetings and have made new friendships and sponsees. We will continue to do our best in carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. Group Contributions have been moderate over the past month, but have shown an increase from last year. Jan 1<sup>st</sup>-July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 = 75.60 % compared to this year’s Jan 1<sup>st</sup>-July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014 = 85.43 % . The Financial Graphs are much detailed and will be presented at the next Area function to the body as many questions were of concern. We have corrected some of the minor errors and have balanced out the books. A much detailed report will be forthcoming. Thanks for your patience, especially the DCM’s and Groups. Keep up the good work!

There are still many non-contributing groups in the Area and we are doing our best to insure that we can increase that effort by visiting these groups and talking about the importance of the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition. Not all groups contribute to AA’s service entities and contributions are strictly voluntary. Some groups simply cannot afford additional contributions after covering their basic needs such as coffee, rent, literature, etc. Additionally, there are groups who, for whatever reasons, choose not to be part of the self-support network or service structure. If a group does not have a lot of money or prudent reserve, it is sometimes better to send a small amount than to not send anything at all. In the spirit of participation, no contribution toward carrying the message can be

too small. We as an area, have received as much as \$ 5.00 per contribution. Bill W. spoke about our “collective obligation” to support AA’s services, and if everyone waited until they had a sizeable amount, it’s more likely that AA’s bills would go unpaid. It is also imperative to be part of an informed group conscience, to belong to a “Home Group” that supports all of AA’s service entities. To have a collective voice in your home group and to have a GSR and Group Treasurer to communicate financial information on a monthly basis.



Participation is key to survival of group harmony and unity in Alcoholics Anonymous.

Yours in Service,  
Randy A., Area 35 Treasurer.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

I would like to express my gratitude to Area 35 for allowing me to continue serving as your secretary.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the area officers, action committee chairs and DCM’s who are sending me your area committee and assembly reports electronically.

My minutes from the June 1 Area Committee Meeting are published in the current issue of the Northern Light. I am following direction from of Service Manuel to report back on the essence of our meeting. Please feel free to give my feedback on my minutes.

I also enjoyed participating in our first Area Zonal Forum on May 17th in Bemidji MN. My presentation covered AA print and electronic resource information available to members. I returned to Bemidji to present at a district workshop in early June on singleness of purpose.

I attended the Spring Celebration of Recovery in St. Cloud in early May and also attended the Weekend With Bill and Lois Round-Up near our Grand Rapids District.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at our Fall Assembly in Grand Rapids MN.

In service, Roger.

**AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PUBLICINFORMATION (PI)**

Summer has been a busy time for me, splitting my time between fishing and training for running races and triathlons. We all know that the weather in MN is fickle so I say get out there while you can. Not much has happened at the Area Level in PI since the June Committee Meeting so I will include a couple of updates from Jim M., Public Information Coordinator.

Getting Informed about Anonymity - An Ongoing Challenge  
One of this year's Additional Committee Considerations involves the staff secretary (that would be me) exploring both direct and indirect ways of sharing ongoing anonymity concerns, and a list of AA resources on anonymity, with the A.A Fellowship, to facilitate local discussions.

To this end, a memo is attached reiterating the additional committee consideration and providing a list of resources on Anonymity that should be helpful to your local efforts. Please share with your P.I. desk here at G.S.O. how your local AA fellowship addresses this ongoing challenge, so we can pass along to others what is working for you. Here are some questions that might help your committee explore ways to inform local AA members about this vital principle:

- ⇒ What can be done locally to ensure that AA members are well informed about the multiple reasons AA members maintain anonymity (as a safeguard for the newcomer, to practice humility and preserve sobriety for the existing member, and to protect AA as a whole)?
- ⇒ How does your committee strive to share information about anonymity with all local groups, not just those who attend service events?
- ⇒ How does your committee utilize a variety of ways to share this information?
- ⇒ How does your committee regularly share information about anonymity, so that existing members are reminded, and newcomers are quickly informed, about this vital principle?
- ⇒ What has your committee found to be effective? Not effective?

Mark your calendars! International Convention Alcoholics Anonymous, July 2-5, 2015 Atlanta Georgia. Marking 80 years of AA!

Please keep up the good work in your districts and in your communities. If I can be of assistance to you or your group or your district do not hesitate to call. Hope to see many of you in Aitkin at the August committee meeting.

Yours in service,

Jeff C.  
Area 35 PI Chair

**COOPERATION WITH THE  
PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY  
(CPC)**

Hi everyone. While my personal life has been filled with fun and positive events, the CPC side hasn't had a lot of excitement. I did receive a couple of requests for information from the MACPO convention. One request was for a treatment center and one was related to corrections. Both requests for southern Minnesota so I found the information for our area 36 counterparts and passed the information along in both directions.

I'm still available to any of the districts who would like participation on their CPC committees. Just give me a little notice so I can schedule for it and I would love to attend and assist in any way I can.

Thank you for allowing me to serve and grow in this wonderful fellowship.

Yours in service  
Servando M., Area 35 CPC Chair

**GRAPEVINE**

I was unable to attend the Founders Day picnic due to some family needs and I was unable to attend the district 5 meeting due to a new job schedule and I feel bad about that.

I continue to spread the good news about the Grapevine any chance I can get. I will continue to encourage groups as well as individuals to invest in a subscription to the Grapevine, you won't be sorry. It is the gift that keeps on giving and you can pass it on. There is the new daily quotes from the grapevine book that has a daily reading second to none. Let me know if there are any items from the grapevine you are interested in.

I attended the delegates report for district 9 and I am confident we are well represented.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,  
Antonette

**TREATMENT**

Greetings from Ely as we are on vacation for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July week!

Since we met in Aitken it has been rather slow for the Treatment Committee. I've placed a couple of contacts for the temporary contact program this week. We are still asking for unused literature from members or groups. We know it is not serving any purpose in that closet! So please bring it to the next meeting!

We have more questions that we will be discussing at the next meeting as well as our reports. We will also be continuing on in our workbook to help carry the message into treatment facilities.

Any questions or concerns please contact me.

Paul M., Area 35 Treatment Chair

**CORRECTIONS**

Hello All. I do hope this finds everyone well. To start, I did talk to Dwayne from District 18; they did get the meeting up and going at Todd County Jail. As of now there are 26 people cleared to take the meeting into the jail. They sent me the meeting outline. It is an open, Big Book based meeting, but in the beginning they will ask if anyone is struggling with drinking or the program. Job WELL done, District 18; keep up the good work.

I was able to attend the Founders Day Celebration in Pequot Lakes on June 14th. We drove through storms on the way up, and on the way back, but did get a nice video of a double rainbow on the way home.

There were 60 + people; the food was great, the people were awesome. They had an A.A. quiz; thank goodness our Area Archivist was there to correct some facts on the quiz with what was in our archives. Just LOVE how it all comes together.

I guess what got me the most was, that there were better than 20 people with less than 1 year sobriety. Thank you, Carl, for the invite.



(committee reports> corrections report continued)

I was also able to attend the potluck Open Speaker Meeting in Detroit Lakes on June 28th, and again, what can I say about the food? GREAT. There were 70+ people. I was able to get two more people to sign up for the corrections contact program. Met some really nice people, talked about some concerns about jail meetings to individuals. I do hope I was able to assure them that it’s not that bad to take meetings into jails and prisons. Thank you, Ray, for the invite. And thank you Kelly, the corrections display did its work again.

Yours in service,  
Skip D.  
Area 35 Corrections Chair

LITERATURE

no report

ARCHIVES

Greeting Everyone

Not a whole lot to report for Archives at this time. Been very busy with spring work due to a large amount of rain this spring. I did manage to attend the Sleepy Hollow Group Potluck in June at Fort Ripley.

Yours in Service,  
Pete B., Area 35 Archives Chair

ARCHIVIST

Since the June committee meeting I was on the road for a few more weeks. I gave a talk on the history of the traditions and was the Saturday night speaker for Founders Day in Duluth. I also brought a display and gave a brief talk on history at Founders Day in Pequot Lakes.

Recent display contributions consist of a 1958 Argosy Magazine with an article, a script for the play, “Come Back Little Sheba” by William Inge, and a 1960 book, “Thirst for Freedom” by Dr. David A. Stewart.

I am continuing to work on a searchable database of the entire collection and preservation projects.

Brad I., Area 35 Archivist.

WEBMASTER

Hello everyone. I am hoping all are enjoying the wonderful summer weather okay—what nice days we do have. I have been working with Bob B. to update the Area 35 calendar and am always learning new things.

If you need something on the calendar or website let me know; we, as a team, will make this happen. If you have any questions at all please do not hesitate to ask. We will get these answered as a team. We are going to be working together on an anonymity presentation and are starting to get this going, hoping to get some good conversations at the August Committee Meeting.

Hope all are well as I am healing—only 2 months to go! (Broken ankle in two places and a torn tendon). Life is good—painful at times, but good.

Here are the hits for Area35.org.

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2014	1,812	2,982	11,329	121,180	2.17 GB
Feb 2014	1,681	2,741	9,704	100,831	1.98 GB
Mar 2014	1,973	3,080	10,474	116,300	2.43 GB
Apr 2014	1,999	2,912	11,875	109,046	2.15 GB
May 2014	2,072	3,391	13,890	117,746	2.66 GB
Jun 2014	2,019	3,774	16,319	113,720	2.86 GB
Jul 2014	526	666	2,563	19,743	444.53 MB
Aug 2014	0	0	0	0	0
Sep 2014	0	0	0	0	0
Oct 2014	0	0	0	0	0
Nov 2014	0	0	0	0	0
Dec 2014	0	0	0	0	0
Total	12,082	19,546	76,154	698,566	14.69 GB

Day	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
01 Jul 2014	138	530	4,080	91.19 MB
02 Jul 2014	118	546	3,894	97.89 MB
03 Jul 2014	149	552	4,309	74.50 MB
04 Jul 2014	101	435	3,405	84.35 MB
05 Jul 2014	149	464	3,790	72.85 MB
06 Jul 2014	11	36	265	23.75 MB

Hoping everyone has an awesome July. See you in August!

Yours in service,  
Sandy H., Area 35 Webmaster

WEB TECHNOLOGY

Supporting aameetinglocator

The WEB Technology position is a temporary position approved for two years at our Fall 2013 Assembly. The position supports aaMetingLocator and other technical needs, as needed in area 35. Supporting aaMeetingLocator requires more than a willingness to serve. A background in programming is also needed. The support person will need to be, or rapidly become, familiar with PHP programming and the use of a MySQL database. I also feel that the person supporting WEB Technology, needs to be an active member of an area assembly.

The willingness to serve and some technical ability is not limited to area 35 and aaMeetingLocator. Many areas are addressing the technical or experience needed to support our service positions.

This August I will be attending the National AA Technology Workshop. It will be interesting to hear how other areas are addressing their technical needs.

We have a year to discuss our technical needs and implement a solution that will meet the needs of area 35 and all of A.A. in Northern Minnesota. I will keep discussing this topic over the next year. At our 2015 Fall Assembly we will need to decide on a support plan for aaMeetingLocator and our other technical needs.

Expanding aameetinglocator

Our current version of aaMeetingLocator will be a year old at our Fall Assembly. At our Fall Assembly we will ask to approve allowing other areas to join aaMeetingLocator. There are some



(Committee reports> Webmaster report continued)

built in limits to the size. We are allowed 2.500 geocode look ups per day. It takes 700 lookups for Northern Minnesota and 1300 lookups for Southern Minnesota per database update. There are lookups during the use of aaMeetingLocator. I do one area update per day. Our database is not regularly updated. Each area should update aaMeetingLocator at least once per month. My suggestion would be to offer aaMeetingLocator to all areas of our West Central Regional Conference and Area 74. (Northern Wisconsin, Upper Peninsula of Michigan) to join aaMeetingLocator. The looks of aaMeetingLocator are designed to look like a “Minnesota” AA meeting locator. If we decide to allow other areas to join aaMeetingLocator, will need to update our web site to represent all areas that it serves.

Note: West Central Regional Conference:  
Area 35 (Northern Minnesota)  
Area 36 (Southern Minnesota)  
Area 24 (Iowa)  
Area 41 (Nebraska)  
Area 52 (North Dakota)  
Area 63 (South Dakota)  
Area 40 (Montana)  
Area 76 (Wyoming)  
Area 74. (Northern Wisconsin, Upper Peninsula of Michigan)

2014 aameetinglocator Statics

Take some time to look at aaMeetingLocaotor statics. Our total visits are up 16% the first 6 months of this year. Our meeting locator has grown.

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
January	3,605	6,156	22,462	132,445	3.08 GB
February	3,120	4,803	20,800	114,870	2.65 GB
March	3,802	5,987	21,425	135,721	3.23 GB
April	3,618	5,621	21,562	130,439	3.09 GB
May	3,762	5,742	23,112	129,896	3.16 GB
June	4,050	8,255	29,394	154,681	3.43 GB
Total	21,957	36,564	138,755	798,052	18.64 GB

www.aameetinglocator.org PC based

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
January	2,092	2,684	9,801	16,500	491.25 MB
Feb	1,829	2,283	8,947	14,819	471.59 MB
March	2,440	3,056	11,279	18,805	588.48 MB
April	2,042	2,613	9,555	15,994	491.55 MB
May	2,276	2,802	10,230	17,130	558.78 MB
Jun	2,656	3,375	12,551	20,752	636.90 MB
Total	13,335	16,813	62,363	104,000	3.16 GB

m.aameetinglocator.org cell phone based

Where is my group Number?

Group numbers can be found using aaMeetingLocator.org. The Group Number is displayed on the group information page. If the group is not found in aaMeetingLocator.org, the group is not active in the GSO FNV database. Contact the area35 or area36 group record keeper to update the GSO FNV database.

Bob B.  
Area35 WEB Technology  
support@area35.org

GROUP RECORDS

Hello Area 35. I am trying to update all groups information. I had some medical issues I had to take care of and I am not done yet. But, I will work on emailing all DCMs their FNV information this Friday July 4th. I apologize to you all for my not getting this done sooner.

I also will not be at the Aitkin Committee Meeting in August as I am having surgery and have to stay off my foot for three weeks. Thank you, Sandy, for taking care of the Northern Light in giving them to the DCMs.

I had a lot of extra copies of the Northern Light left from our last meeting, as many DCMs did not attend.

If you see anymore changes I need to make, please email me or call me. I will update as soon as possible.

Again, I am sorry for not getting this updated.

Yours in Service,  
Rolene L., Area 35 Group Records

NORTHERN LIGHT

Greetings Area 35! The first message I wish to convey is one of my thanks and appreciation to the voting members of the assembly for allocating funds to meet the needs of all the committee members; to the groups who appropriate the funding and support necessary to send their GSR’s to Assemblies, allowing them to experience the fulfillment to be found in participating in service; and especially to the individuals who financially contribute to their groups.

As you can tell by reading the other committee chair reports a lot of good things are happening as we look for new opportunities to carry the message to the newcomer and to sustain and maintain the established venues of aid for the suffering alcoholic.

Communication plays a vital role in this business of carrying the message, whether it be directly to the man or woman in misery or to maintain the contact, accountability, and circulation of information between groups and its service representatives.

Continual interaction and communication is the key. The principles I have come to see as the most valuable in living a useful and enjoyable life and in my sobriety are those that are perpetuated through consistent good works and actions.

The Northern Light is one of Area 35’s great tools in this consistent communication and while I have been doing fine in meeting the responsibility of putting the newsletter together with the use of my laptop, it does have quite a few issues, and in my past experience with an identical model (basically, it burned up!) I feel a load has been lifted with the refurbished laptop and newer software that Area 35 attained for me to use. Our newly positioned tech support representative, Bob B., has done a great job in helping all of the committee members whose position entails use of electronic equipment and / or software.

Along those lines, the updated software—though a much needed change, especially for the Northern Light editors who will follow—has been a source for a great deal of frustration with me. Bob has had a great many of tips and suggested fixes for these.

Thanks for all your assistance, Bob!

I attended the Founders Day Week-end Celebration at the Duluth Alano in June. It was a great way to spend the day, interacting with other sober alcoholics like myself. It was topped off by Brad I.’s talk on Saturday, which, for me reiterates one of my most important tenets: “You never know.” I was impressed with a partial summation of his experiences in sobriety and Alcoholics Anonymous in his words, that there is a connectedness within A.A.; I believe he used the word inarguable and unexplainable—if not, I know I choose to associate those words with my sober life in Alcoholics Anonymous.

Rodney S.

Area 35 June Area Committee Meeting  
Aitkin, MN  
June 1, 2014  
Minutes

Sarah K. Called meeting to order and opened with the Serenity Prayer  
Recognition of past delegates in attendance: Tom A. Panel 50; Susie A. Panel 48; Bruce B. Panel 48; JoAnne N. Panel 58; Jim K. Panel 62.  
Minutes from the February Area Committee Meeting were approved.

OFFICER REPORTS

**Delegate-MIKE J.** Good morning. Wow. Six months have passed already as I started representing Area 35 as your Panel 64 Delegate and it has been more than I imagined. Thank you for your support and encouragement. May you all enjoy the same blessings in General Service as I have. After returning from the conference and putting my report together I was nervous about how it would turn out. I was lucky enough to have people in my life that told me I had been preparing for this for years and would do fine. I have given my report twice so far: once in District 13 and once in District 9. Both districts were very courteous and provided good food and seemed receptive. Thank you.  
I attended the zonal forum in Bemidji and enjoyed the presentations and spending time with the few people from each district. We had about 25 people with about half of them from Zone 1. Thank you for your participation and attendance. I had the privilege of riding with our treasurer Randy and we got to know each other better. Thanks for the ride, Randy.  
I am looking forward to my upcoming reports. Those that have set a date are: District 8, June 3<sup>rd</sup>; District 16 on June 4<sup>th</sup>; District 16, June 4<sup>th</sup>; Districts 1 and 2 on June 8<sup>th</sup>; District 14, June 10<sup>th</sup>; District 12, June 17<sup>th</sup>; and District 7, June 28<sup>th</sup>. And I am looking forward to setting dates with the other districts soon.  
It has been busy not only with commitments but I get to attend a wedding in between and spend time with family in Minneapolis. So far my health is doing well and my back hasn't given out. We have many of us that are going through physical things that need your prayers and support so that we can serve the groups in Area 35. Take care and God Bless.

**ALTERNATE DELEGATE-KELLY D.** Good morning Area 35. So grateful to begin another summer here in northern Minnesota. Hope you are all enjoying the beautiful weather we are having. I have been kept pretty busy since our Spring Assembly.

On April 30 I was invited to attend the Primary Purpose Group's Speaker Meeting in St. Cloud. Carl, DCM for District 7 and the "guys" from that district which presented at our past January Service Workshop were asked to present their topic again on "Participating in Our Common Welfare Through Contributions" and did another fine job. It was a great night of fellowship with dinner beforehand with some great AA friends, the meeting and then of course ice cream afterwards.

On May 2nd I attended the "Spring Celebration" in St. Cloud and experienced another great evening of fellowship with some old AA friends along with hearing two great speakers that evening. Always a great yearly event put on by that committee, thank you!

On May 17th I traveled to Bemidji for our first Zonal Forum. We had a good turnout, I counted 33 present at one time. All DCM's from the 4 Districts in Zone 1 were present. We had plenty of questions asked of us Area Officers and good discussion amongst all that were present. Thank you to all who attended and made it a successful Forum. I would like to also thank Irv and District 21 again, for hosting this event. After the Forum a few of us had a great steak and fish dinner at Bob, our Web Technology Chair's campsite, which was a great way to relax and have an end to a

perfect day. Speaking of Bob, he was our speaker at my home group Into Action's yearly Open Speaker Meeting on May 22nd. He did a great job sharing his story with all of us. He also had great support from his home group that came; that made for another wonderful evening of fellowship with some of our AA friends from Brainerd over a great potluck dinner. Thanks Bob!

As I mentioned early in my Northern Light report I have scheduled our next Zonal Forum which will be held in Zone 3 which consists of Districts 5, 6, 7, 11, 13 and 18. It will be held on Saturday, September 13th at the Fort Ripley Town Hall from 12:00-4:00 pm. District 7 will be hosting and I want to thank them. We are hoping for another great turnout for it. I sent out an email to all DCM's in those District along with the flier, map, to the location and agenda. They are also posted on the Area 35 Calendar. DCM's from those Districts please take this information to your District's meetings and groups for discussion/topics/concerns on how Area 35 can better serve each of you and please encourage all AA's whether in service or not to attend. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. We look forward to seeing you there!

**AREA CHAIR -Sarah K.** Thank you so much for the honor of serving AA. But, I'll admit I took a deep, grateful breath after the Spring Assembly was over. :) Spring Assembly registration was 134, which is great! But ... only 48 GSR's. Since we have over 500 registered groups in Northern MN, it looks like we are missing some people. I look forward to working with DCMs to see what we can do to encourage involvement in general service. If you have any ideas, I'd love to hear them.

I know many amazing things are being done by Area members: District 7 hosted a CPC event that Brad (Archives chair) and I presented at: he presented AA history and I presented "What AA does and Does not do." I had a blast, and as I have a tendency to do, I talked too long! Oh, always something to work on. :) All of the Area Officers presented at the first Zonal Forum and I think that we can come up with some ideas on things to do in the future to better meet the need of the districts and increase attendance. It was great to chat with the DCMs from Zone I plus some additional DCMs from surrounding districts were there, plus Bob B. (our web tech) cooked up an amazing surf-n-turf for us after. Bonus. I also heard that District 2 just had a GSR school—awesome! If your district is interested in hosting an event on any topic, this type of thing is something the Area Committee would be happy to help with (and our travel costs would be covered by Area). On this note, I'm looking forward to attending the District 21 Singleness of Purpose workshop on June 7.

I have been working with the event scheduling company (since April) to set up our upcoming assemblies. Unfortunately, we are having trouble finding locations that can hold us, want us, can meet all our needs AND are affordable. I tried to set it up so that districts who haven't had an event in a long time would get one, but we are having mixed luck with it. Particularly with Spring Assembly of 2015 which is in Zone III. If any DCMs in that zone have any ideas of locations that might work, please let me know! I was trying to host it outside of Detroit Lakes as we have had several events there in the last few years, so we are currently negotiating with a facility in Fergus Falls at the Big Woods Events Center, Best Western, but we could go elsewhere. Whatever's the cheapest.

Finally, I have some housekeeping stuff: Please everyone answer emails within 1 week, at least to say that you got the email. Area Action Committee Chairs: make sure you are familiar with your Guidelines and Workbook, and when you get the General Service Board minutes from Jake, read your committee closely and identify items for discussion (items that will likely come up on future GSC agendas). About \$-we are down in contributions, but we can't just ask for more money without showing why we need it. Chairs have been doing a great job attending District meetings.

(minutes continued)

Keep it up! If we are visible in (or in contact with) the districts, at local events, at district meetings near us, as representatives of the Area to see how we can best serve the Districts, then they will see the usefulness and reasons for contributing more. So, I think each of us has the responsibility to call DCMs, at least the ones on your committee (regularly), to check in and see what they need. Previously we had discussed doing zonal workshops or presentations on Fri. prior to assemblies. Those were great ideas; let's keep this type of thinking/action going! Contact DCMs to see if they would like to host an (informational) event you can present at, and we can work together to do a joint event.

Everyone: Don't forget to get your hotel for Fall Assembly. I'm not sure yet what the format will be, but I asked for people to consider it, and I hope to have some feedback on this at the June ACM. If there is anything I can do to help out in your district or groups, don't hesitate to call me.

**Secretary-Roger R.** I would like to express my gratitude to Area 35 for allowing me to continue serving as your secretary. I would also like to express my gratitude to the area officers, action committee chairs and DCM's who are sending me your reports electronically. I would again be very appreciative of your emailing me the report you gave at this ACM by June 9. That will facilitate my getting the minutes from today's meeting out in a timely manner. Minutes from our Spring Assembly are published in the current issue of the Northern Light. Following the Spring Assembly I participated in a CPC presentation on A.A. to 20 Army National Guard Chaplains on April 14 in Arden Hills MN. These chaplains serve the 14,000 Army National Guard Troops in MN. I also enjoyed participating in our first Area Zonal Forum on May 17 in Bemidji MN. As a reminder I would again be very appreciative of your emailing me the report you gave at this ACM by June 9. In service, Roger

**TREASURER- Randy A.** We attended the Zonal Forum on May 17<sup>th</sup>, at the Bemidji Alano Club and had excellent participation and discussion. A presentation on Area finances and the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition was included. There were lots of questions and comments from the members. All the Area Officers did an excellent job with their respective presentations and duties. We have seen a slight increase in contributions for the last two months but are still well below our average income for the year. I have still been getting forwarded mail from the previous Treasurers address and some are coming directly to my home address. We have posted all contributions on the website, Northern Light, and are placing contribution envelopes at the various service functions. I will continue to send emails out and encourage contributions at all service functions and district meetings. I would like to encourage all DCM's and Committee Members to remind the groups of the new address change to send in contributions and to include group service numbers if possible. We had a few contributions with no return address and no group service numbers on them, but luckily, we were able to track the groups down with the help of the DCM's in the districts. I have also received a few hundred new contributions envelopes from GSO which took a few weeks to get. We also recently received a letter from GSO expressing their gratitude for our contribution of \$ 1600.00 for sending our Delegate to the General Service Conference. We have inserted a flyer in the Northern Light so please bring these back to your districts and Home Groups to share at the business meetings. We need to inform the Area of the significance and importance of our 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition and where our money goes. We will continue to do our utmost to get all the groups active in service and participation and to include the inactive groups as well. Financial reports were read to the Area Committee with some corrections.

Yours in Service, Randy.

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS**

**CORRECTIONS- Skip D.** Good day all. We had 5 in attendance this morning; Districts 2, 7, 8, 9, and 11 were present. They reported all commitments are being met.

We did talk about how the literature gets into the jails and prisons, it seems that they are as different as the qualifications to go in and put on meetings. We did talk about the web site and what would be helpful to put on it, there are some concerns about public information and how that information could be used by non-AA members.

I was able to visit District 18 to help set up a format, and to answer any concerns about volunteering at a jail or prison on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. There were 22 people there to help get this up and running. As I have reported in the past, Todd county NOW has an AA meeting going. Starts June 5th, thank you all for your commitment to help in "carrying this message".

I did attend the transition fair at St. Cloud prison on May 14<sup>th</sup>; we had 10 contacts for Area 35 and 12 contacts for Area 36. Thank you Chris and Jeff for your help and time.

I do look forward to the transition fair at Rush City prison on June 25th.

I did attend the zonal forum in Bemidji; what a show, can't wait for the next one! Thank you, everyone. There was a lot of information passed on. Yours in service, Skip D.

**DISTRICT 2-MICHAEL H.** Greetings from District 2. Let me start off by saying I was super excited to see such good attendance at our last District 2 business meeting in Middle River. There were 10 in attendance, and there was a lot of good participation and discussion. In my DCM report that day I went over how I voted at the Spring Assembly in Duluth. I also informed the group that I set up a Delegates report back from the General Service Conference in New York that will take place June 8<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in the Win-E-Mac school near Erskine MN and will also involve District 1. It was also reported by our treasurer that we are lower than normal in our account. Also, we are printing new District 2 meetings lists, and distributing them throughout the District. Again it was talked about to start our Round Up back up, although for various reasons the issue was tabled. We also had a member step up and take the secretary's role as we had an opening at that position. There was also a new GSR at the meeting, and it was encouraged that all GSR's bring back to their groups what went on at the meeting, and that there are plenty of chair positions that needed to be filled. Again it was good to see a good amount of people at the district meeting, and it was on Mother's Day none the less. Our next meeting is scheduled for July 13<sup>th</sup> at the Middle River church at 2 pm.

**District 9-Fred H.** All is well in District 9. I am making the rounds to all of the meetings in our district. We had a great turnout for the Spring Assembly. Yesterday our delegate drove all the way to Hibbing for his report which was very well attended.

**CPC-SERVANDO M.** Since my last report I was able to provide pamphlets to Roger R. for an event targeted towards veterans/chaplains. Also due to work schedule I was unable to attend the MACPO event in Brainerd. Jake C. the CPC/PI Chair for District 5 was able to jump right in and do a wonderful job. I was able to mail him pamphlets from the CPC stockpile that I possess. The next scheduled event that I am aware of is the St Louis County Health and Human Services Convention, which will be held at the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center on October 9-10.

*(minutes continued)*

Once again, thank you, for allowing me to participate in and be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous.  
Yours in service, Servando.

**DISTRICT 16-NOREEN H. FOR GRIFFIN M.** Our Treatment and Secretary Chairman positions are still open – all others are filled. Attendance at our last District meeting was 7 (One of the attendees was a new GSR).  
Our next District Meeting will focus on our Delegates Report (Jake is coming to present to our district on June 4<sup>th</sup> in the conference room of the Chinese Buffet).  
Our PI Luncheon on May 2<sup>nd</sup> went well. We had 18 professionals attend; total attendance was 24 after you include our speakers and the few local AA members who attended.  
We continue to carry the message to three of the treatment centers in our district.  
Weekly Jail meetings are happening thanks to our Corrections Chair Tike S.

Since the spring assembly I had the opportunity to attend the Iron Range Get Together and the Zonal From in Bemidji.

One of the young GSRs in our district passed away recently. The funeral was in Cloquet, MN and I was glad to see so many from our district attend. I spoke to several of his family members about his service to our community and drive to help others. His Brother told me, “I did not know the guy you are talking about... the brother I knew was none of those things... we quit talking five years ago... I had always wished our kids could grow up and play together some day....” We may not have all the answers to the ‘why’s’ in life but we do have a program of action that allows us to carry the message to both the still suffering and even their families.

Grateful I am to be doing more than just attending AA, I have become a part of AA thanks to strong sponsorship, the fellowship, and AA service. Yours in Service, Griffin M.

**DISTRICT 7-CARL P.** No report

**ARCHIVES-PETE B.** Greetings. Districts 12, 18, 7, 21 and 9 were represented at our meeting today. These districts have been active in archive activities. We discussed meeting locations for assemblies; our group does not have a problem with meeting at Casinos. We discussed who was the first sober person in MN; that was Barry C. who started the Nicolet Group. 2218 is the oldest Alano club in MN. I attended the District 15 committee meeting and the St. Cloud Round-Up. My email is not working at the moment so reach me at my phone number in the NL.

**DISTRICT 12-RILLIS E.** Fifteen people attended our last district meeting at the John Club in Superior WI. All of our committee chairs have been filled. Our Corrections Chair is in contact with all of the facilities in our district. Our PI/CPC Committee had a booth at the MNYPPAA conference in April in Duluth MN. They also had a booth at the Fond Du Lac Community College Heath Fair. Jake will be speaking at our July District Meeting in Cloquet.

**DISTRICT 18-NEIL R.** No report

**ARCHIVIST-BRAD I.** Since Spring Assembly I have acquired a lot of windshield time. I brought the display to the Superior Round-Up, the 75<sup>th</sup> Big Book Anniversary in New Ulm and to Bloomington for the Gopher State Round-Up. I also spoke about AA history at the C.P.C. workshop at the Grandview Lodge in Nisswa.

For upcoming events I am giving a presentation on the history on the traditions and I am the Saturday night speaker at Founders

Day in Duluth.

I am still working on creating a searchable data base of the Archives and I am writing essays for a virtual Archives tour. Recent contributions to the Archives are the recently released reproduction Big Book. I preordered the books back in November, my card got charged April 15, which was the target date for filling all pre-orders, but I did not get the books for 3 weeks. Duluth Intergroup had ordered multiple cases and multiple orders and received them before I got my 2 books. I ended up buying a 3<sup>rd</sup> book from Duluth Intergroup to have on display in Superior. It would have been cheaper to buy from Intergroup than directly from AAWS and not have paid the 10 dollar shipping cost for two books. One can surmise that this endeavor is not group focused or solely for historical purposes as per the voices that drove the decision to market this item.

Paul H., Area 36 Archivist recovered the Display First Editions with new protective covers and I made new labels for them. He has big rolls of the material for covering the books so it was more viable from a money standpoint then me doing it. I am also looking at creating a large sign that can stand on an easel with 12 suggested steps for behavior in an Archives display. Thanks again for this opportunity to be of service, Brad.

**WEBMASTER -SANDY H.** Hi everyone, I'm Sandy H., alcoholic, Area 35 Webmaster. There were 7 in attendance at our meeting this morning. Even though I arrived late, it was very informative. Bob and I are going to be working on instructions on how to mail a flyer separate from the northern light. Rodney, Rolene, & I are going to be working on instructions on inserting flyers in the Northern Light, the plan is to get this one the web.

Since the spring assembly in Duluth, I attended the last two District 15 meetings in Albany. I went to Bob B.'s house for some help with the web and with Bob's help, we updated the service manual and have added a couple flyers. I attended the zonal form in Bemidji, May 17. Visitors for aameeinglocator: in June unique--2034, visitors--3296.

I'm ok. I stepped in a hole my son's dog dug and broke my ankle! Yes, Fred (the dog) is still alive as well as my son and we still went fishing! Enjoy your summer, progress not perfection yours in service, Sandy.

**Treatment-Paul M.** We had eight in attendance at our meeting today representing districts: 21, 12, 15, 5, 8 and 6. All of these districts are engaged in treatment activity. We looked at the Guidelines and Suggestions for working with Treatment Facilities out of the Treatment Workbook. Also talked about asking members and groups to bring old books and Grapevine Magazines to area events so the Treatment Committee can distribute these materials to treatment facilities. Committee recommends placing the GSR Workbook on the area website. I am also working with the temporary contact program in Area 36 for people coming out of treatment in Area 36 who are moving to our area.

**DISTRICT 21-IRV R.** Area 35 Zonal Forum was held at the Bemidji Alano Club in May. It was well attended and a lot of wonderful information was shared and discussed.

Our chairs are filled. CPC has been actively giving presentations to organizations. We have a new meeting n the BHCC. Jail meetings are going strong and we have been proving BB's and 12 X 12's for these meetings.

In general district meeting attendance is strong. Treasury is flush and we are able to make \$500.00 book orders.

Best wishes from District 21.



*(minutes continued)*

**DISTRICT-6 GARRET B.** No report

**PI-Jeff C.** There were three districts represented at our meeting this morning, 6,7, and 16. Districts 7 and 16 have had recent PI events. District 6 is using PI Guidelines to support conversations and content with the inter-county parole board AA meetings.

Since the Spring Assembly I have been very busy. I attended the District 7 PI event on May 15 in Nisswa, MN. I have received a request to help with programming/AA support from Riverview Recovery Center in Crookston, MN. I was contacted by a professional working with Hubbard County Social Services looking for more information on AA in their area. I am happy to be able to provide AA approved materials for all of these requests. I received an email from [www.minnesotahelp.info](http://www.minnesotahelp.info) asking that we update our contact information for Area 35 Northern MN. This web service serves as a clearinghouse of contacts and information for professionals who work in health related fields in the State of Minnesota. I have also been working on a couple of projects: updating AA in Minnesota information sheets that provide contact information to travelers throughout the state of Minnesota, and working with Area 36 to staff the AA booth at the MN State Fair. There are still some open volunteer shifts at the AA booth August 23 and 24, 2014. Please contact me directly if you are interested in helping with this project. Yours in service, Jeff.

**DISTRICT 5-DEAN M.** We are working on filling three positions; Literature/Grapevine, Corrections and Archives. We are looking forward to our Delegates Report back, with District 6 on June 21. We are fulfilling our commitments with local corrections and treatment facilities as well as the probation commitment. Jake C. our CPC Chair attended the MN Association of County Probation Officers on May22-3. We would like to thank Area 35 for allowing us to be of service at this event. Yours in service, Dean.

**DISTRICT 4-REY F.** No report

**NORTHERN LIGHT-RODNEY S.** Greetings Area 35. There were 7 members present at our meeting this morning with DCM's Bill C. from District 11 and Christine G. from District 13, Paul the District 3 Webmaster, along with Group Records Chair, Webmaster, Web-tech and myself.

The printing of the May / June issue of The Northern Light suffered a delay and we discussed my giving the print shop a follow-up call or email inquiry to ensure that it has been printed. Rolene stated that there are 44 groups listed as unknown in the FNV database. She is recommitted to reducing this number—which will require all of our assistance in getting her the correct group information.

Christine reported that District 13 is considering / discussing putting the District 13 minutes on the Area 35 Website.

Bob is doing a little presentation later today on what items we might put on the website. Along these lines we discussed possible events our committee could be involved in that would aid the Area Committee. We could do a workshop on the FNV database, its relevance to Meeting Locator and the maintenance of accurate group information.

We discussed putting the procedure for putting flyers in the Northern Light on the Area 35 Website and in the Northern Light.

As mentioned there was a delay in distribution of this edition of the Northern Light. I received confirmation on receipt of the pdf file to be printed but the process was overlooked further in the week and was not printed as scheduled. We have been discussing the issue and it is my position that the deadlines are placed efficiently. I currently have received confirmation of each order on a Monday (usually right at the beginning of the work day) with an assurance that it will get it off to the printers that day; I have also been discussing the pro's and con's of doing a mid-

week check-up, as to whether or not it might cause more chaos and confusion.

I was glad to finally see some replies of people getting their copy of the newsletter and in the groups I attend. Even though the slip-up was beyond my control, I feel somewhat responsible for the delay; I have to remind myself that I am not running the show. I want to thank everyone for getting their reports and other info to me by deadline; you are doing a great job. I can always use more material—either from your own experience or pertinent literature that you come across.

Though this is a new position and commitment for me, even when I get in conversations about the Northern Light—what it is, who it benefits, its intended purpose—I inevitably wind up getting back to consistent participation in group and district activity, individual growth and responsibility. Rarely do I talk with someone about the Northern Light, Area 35.org, or Meeting Locator without talking about all of them, leading to a plug for service, in that the more we stay active in service in our districts and in our group communication, the better we are at maintaining accurate information in all venues—the Northern Light, Meeting Locator, the Area website, Group Records and local directories. This results in these tools being not only more useful but also in their accuracy being easy to maintain; their usefulness and accuracy perpetuate each other.

Thank you for the opportunities to grow in service, Rodney.

**DISTRICT 14-DEB A.** No report

**LITERATURE-JIM S.** Good Morning Everyone. First, thank you Steve, for filling in for me while I am up in Canada doing a little spring bear hunting. I look forward to seeing you all in August. Briefly, I will be putting in an order with GSO shortly after this meeting as my inventory of books is low. So, if you need anything, Steve has a sheet of paper to write your name, contact info and what you want on it. I do not place orders that do not have a name and number with them. In Service, Jim S.

**DISTRICT 3-STEVE D.** Good afternoon and greetings from District 3. My name is Steve D. and I am an alcoholic. DCM for District 3. It seems such a short time since the Area 35 meeting in April.

District 3 continues to hold monthly district meetings the third Sunday of the month at the Perham Alano. We meet at 10:00 am. Group representation stays fairly consistent. We continue to have GSRs bringing new people to help them experience service at the district level. Our new chairs are in place and beginning to develop goals for the upcoming two years.

As I shared last time, we have some goals in the district we are working on. (Steve provided great details on these goals- Area Secretary was unable to cut and paste his goals into this report). Yours in Service, Steve.

**DISTRICT 1-JON S.** no report

**GROUP RECORDS ROLENE L.** Hello Area 35. I have been busy updating the database. I am trying to get everything current. I have heard from GSO and we need to have groups with a contact person or GSR for the groups to be active on the FNV database. It is really important. So I will be printing out the list of unknown groups which are groups with no contact; there are 44 of them. And let the DCMs know which groups to visit to see if they can get someone as a contact person, if nothing else, along with some kind of mailing address. I would like to thank the districts for giving me their group's information for putting your group numbers on the forms; it is so helpful to me as I am still learning. Been working with Bob B. and Sandy, getting the FNV up to date for GSO. Also, if you are not receiving the Northern Light please let me know either by email or phone. Thank you for allowing me to serve. Yours in service, Rolene.

*(minutes continued)*

**DISRTICT 11-BILL C.** We are funding CPC materials to be sent t local doctors. We also funded a booth at the Pine County Fair. I saw a number of people from our district at Gopher State Roundup. Our monthly bowling event is well attended. All of our corrections commitments are being met thanks to Gary. A new meeting has been started at the Federal Prison in Sandstone.

**DISTRICT 13-CHRISTINE G.** Greetings from District 13. We hold our district meeting the 1st Monday of the Month at the St. Cloud Alano Club starting at 7:30pm. District 7 DCM, Carl, and Archives Chair visited our meeting in April. We would like to extend an invite to anyone who would like to come join us at our meeting.

District 13 hosted the Delegate’s report with District 15 on May 18<sup>th</sup> at the Alano Club in St. Cloud. We had a potluck and about 30 people in attendance. We were the first to hear Jake’s report and he did a nice job.

We have decided to conduct a district inventory in August. The last district inventory was in 2010.

Most of our chair positions are filled. We did have our Correction’s Chair resign his position due to health reasons. We will be accepting nominations and hope to have an election in July.

Some things that our chairs are busy doing:

PI – Benton County Fair arrangements have been made for our booth in August. We sent in all our updated information to Group Records for the directory. A special thank you to Tim R. for his continued commitment in helping Mark with keeping our group information accurate and up to date! We appreciate your continued service.

Treatment – Commitments are continued being met in the facilities. People have been interested in speaking and carrying the message.

CPC – Met with Detox in St. Cloud and at this time they are not interested in AA returning to put on meetings. The director at Detox is worried about legal issues.

Literature - Had a table at the Spring Celebration Round Up and sold about \$95 worth of literature.

Corrections - Continues to recruit volunteers to bring in meetings to the local jails and prisons. It is becoming hard to find people who will clear the requirements laid out by the jails.

Our district was struggling with contributions in April. We had a lot of expenses going out for the assembly, WCRAASC and Benton County Fair booth. We got the word out and our groups in the district pulled together and were able to make additional contributions.

One of our GSRs is inquiring about the availability of literature for people who are sight impaired. If anyone has information on this, please let me know. In Service, Christine.

**GRAPEVINE ANTONETTE F.** We had 8 in attendance this morning with Districts 11, 15, 2, 8, 9 and 3 present. We had a lengthy discussion about shipping charges for literature with possible solutions. Melrose has a new DCM, Melissa and she is struggling with participation in the district and asked for suggestions. Many of the districts present talked about similar problems within their districts and what they have done to improve participation. Don't give up. Steve D. Talked about combining the literature orders with the area for solution to the shipping costs. Jim S., our area literature chair will order and bring it to the Area Meeting if contacted.

I have been very busy. I attended the assembly in April, MNYPAA the following weekend and let me tell you, AA is alive and well as evidenced by the attendance and energy in both events. I was able to tell one person about the Grapevine that had never heard of it. I continue to be humbled by the opportunities to share my experience, strength and hope.

The Grapevine turns 70 this month and is going strong. If you have any sponsees, this is a great gift that lasts all year long. The *Grapevine* has a number of different publications, from cd's to books, along with online opportunities. Everyone should consider writing a story, contact me and I will let you know how. I am available for upcoming events, contact me if I can help. Thank you for allowing me to serve and HAPPY BIRTHDAY Grapevine! Antonette

**DISTRICT 8-JERRY B.** Hi, I'm Jerry B. and I'm an alcoholic, currently serving as DCM for Dist. 8. Our district meetings are held on a rotating basis the first full week of each month at various locations in our district. Please contact myself or any of our district committee chairs or officers if you would like to attend as a bystander. These are closed meetings. Our next meeting is Tuesday, June 3rd in Virginia at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. It will be our delegate report meeting presented by Michael "Jake" J. We recently had two of our members badged to be eligible to carry the message of AA into Sandstone Federal Correctional Facility; more member volunteers will become available as we find out more about this great opportunity to be of service. Our Alt. Treatment Chair recently had to resign because of personal family matters so we will be seeking another candidate and possibly voting to fill this vacancy at our June meeting. Our Alt. Corrections Chair will also be resigning in the near future because of a move for school and work, more about this as information becomes available. Dist. 8 is financially stable at this time. All of our commitments to speak at various facilities are being met. The members of Dist. 8 are always willing to serve wherever/ whenever we're called upon. Thanks for listening, Jerry B., DCM Dist. 8.

**DISTRICT 15 MELISSA M.** Hey Everyone! My name is Melissa. I am an addict/alcoholic and the new DCM for District 15. Our last District Meeting was held on May 5<sup>th</sup> 2014, and we had about 20 people in attendance. Most of the attendance was the GSR’s, and we had 4 chairpersons in attendance. Our Literature chair had to step down for personal reasons. As of right now the only chair positions that are filled are DCM, Treasurer and Secretary (I have taken over the Literature chair until someone is willing to take on the position.) We are working to get all chairs filled. We are still struggling when it comes to getting people involved in service work. We are still struggling with finding GSR’s in the groups and then having the GSR’s show up at our District Meeting or assemblies. We are concerned about sponsorship in our area, and the number of Big Book meetings that we have. Our district is looking into hosting several workshops, one being the Steps & Traditions. We are going to reach out to the Area Chairs and see if they would be willing to come to our district to teach people what the position involves and see if we can find someone who is willing to take on the chair position for our district. We have an outpatient treatment facility called “Serenity Paths” that is located in Paynesville, MN they are looking for people that know the Big Book who would be willing to come and speak. They are also going to be opening up a new location and are looking for any kind of AA literature that could be donated. They are nonprofit and are strictly a 12 step program. I have been doing my best to attend all meetings within the district. We are doing very well when it comes to our bank account and have been discussing where we should be sending our funds; we are going to be placing a large order towards AA literature. We are also going to see if our district would be willing to have a Delegates Report from Jake since no one showed up for the District 13 report. I want to apologize on behalf of District 15 to District 13 that no one from our district attended and they did a wonderful job hosting. I want to thank everyone when it comes to any advice on how to make our district a strong district; I also want to thank everyone who is willing to travel to our district and being of service in any way shape or form. Our district discussed helping other districts out as well. If anyone needs help in any

*(minutes continued)*

way please contact me and I will do my best as the DCM to help in any way possible. Thank you all again! It has been a wonderful experience learning from all of you and I look forward to seeing you all again!

Thank you all for allowing me to participate in being the DCM, and thank you for all the support that you all have been giving me. I wish nothing but peace and serenity for all of you! God Bless.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Area 35/36 Workshop- Sarah K.** Scheduled for Nov. 21, 2014 from 10-2 PM, in St. Cloud at Calvary Community Church.

**Spring Assembly Evaluations-Sarah K.** Mostly positive. Report is forthcoming.

**Area 35 Assemblies- Schedule completed by Sarah K.**

**Financial Oversight Committee Report- Steve L.** Noted a few cut and paste errors; everything is true and correct with bank reconciliation on Area 35 account.

**Web Technologies Report – Bob B.** - Passed out 7,500 cards already. AA Meeting Locator is the official name. Attending National AA Technology Workshop. Showed current area 35 inventory of hardware and software.

**New Business**

**Fall Assembly Format-Sarah K.** Asked for suggestion. Suggestions on topics included the following. Concepts, singleness of purpose and how we are carrying our message into facilities. Concepts or traditions workshops or speaker options. How to get positions responsibilities fulfilled? Some have defined these. Contact Sarah before August if you have other suggestions.

**Report on MN Association of County Probation Officers Table top event.** Greetings. My name is Jacob C. and I am the CPC/PI chair for District 5. I don't know how to keep this brief and offer the report you deserve so just cut me off when you get bored. I will start with, thank you for allowing me to serve, the coffee was wonderful, so we should go back to MACPO next year! I attended the Minnesota Association of County Probation Officers event at the Breezy Point Resort on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. Along with Arden A., the Corrections Chair for District 7. We spoke with around 65 individuals over the two days. We handed out over 382 pieces of literature at the event. This includes 3 Big Books, 2 Spanish Big Books, 24 packets that I made up geared towards probation officers interested in making contact with AA in Minnesota, and the rest being our conference approved pamphlets. I gave away over 40 Grapevines to treatment facilities and private social service companies, for their waiting rooms. This did not include the 300 AA Meeting Locator cards handed out!!! Yeah! Between literature that Servando mailed me and excess CPC related literature from District 5, we were covered. I forgot to count the literature on hand from Area 35 that we handed out, so my numbers are on the low side.

Attending this event were mostly probation officers from all over the state, representing both County and State probation/parole agents. As for the vendors present, they varied greatly, but roughly represented various halfway houses, other professional associations, Breathalyzer manufacturers and installation/monitoring services, treatment facilities, MN DOC programs, boys ranches, private social or mental health services, and a number of college recruiters. I did my best to make sure to talk to most of the halfway house representatives, boy's ranches, MN

DOC programs representatives, and the representative for the Minnesota Corrections Association, who happens to be the administrative assistant to the warden at the Lino Lakes DOC compound.

It was good to get the positive feedback from many of the county probation officers, but on a sad note, a Chisago County probation officer let us know that AA used to do a Public Information Meeting for people on probation in Chisago County, but that we stopped showing up. I've chatted with the DCM in District 6 about this as he lives in that county and understands the issues there. It's a border county and really is literally a blurred line between Area 35/36.

By treating the other vendors and probation officers like we would like new comers to AA to be treated, with a warm smile, a personal introduction, plenty of questions about their organization, and an introduction to what we do, and some talk of our contact programs, complete with literature in hand, I was able break the ice with nearly every halfway house and treatment program present. Thank you to the AA's before me who greeted newcomers into AA the same way. This was a very effective approach. It was nice to see that an already established relationship with a local county probation officer resulted in a Wright County MN DOC parole agent taking interest in having AA do a presentation about Public Information meetings! Probation Officers speak a particular dialect of English that is confusing, so forming a relationship with one who can translate, is worth the effort!

The representative to the Minnesota Corrections Association, is also the assistant to the warden of the Lino Lakes prison, and took a great interest in our contact programs. She also insisted we go as a vendor to the MCA event this fall. None of the halfway houses, nor the several programs represented at Lino Lakes were aware of our Bridging the Gap program, or appropriate AA contact programs. Nor are there any AA meetings going on at Lino Lakes in ANY of the youth facilities. I have the information for contacts available for Skip.

Most of the vendors did not understand how AA cooperates with professionals, and so a great deal of public information work was accomplished while the probation officers were in their various meetings. This event was as much as a meet and greet among we vendors as it was for presenting to the probation people. We have a lot of work to do, given the feed back received. Most of the literature given out, was given with an extended hand of cooperation, and a phone number/email address of who to contact where.

I had some sample newsletters posted on a board, and pressed heavily the F-2, *Information on AA* flyer. It was two pages of a six page packet I made up. There was a page explaining how we are organized and why we are that way. The goal of the pamphlet was to give information on what we are and are not, and how to contact us in Minnesota. An obnoxious lime green, large print, short and direct, pamphlet, specific to Minnesota, seemed to be an effective local tool to add to our otherwise great collection of pamphlets. There was a bag culture as far as collecting free stuff, and since we were all out of AA labeled beer bottle openers, it

was good to have something physically larger than any other literature available at the event from any vendor, and was certainly the brightest.

By attending MACPO, AA has saved its local groups and districts thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours spent making cold contacts with professionals. I am sure as we respond to those making contact with us, the mutual goal we share with our new friends, to help the still suffering alcoholic, will be more efficient

(minutes continued)

ly met. As I have grown in recovery, so has been impressed upon me, through experience, that effective management of finite resources, helps keep serenity accessible, by not wasting effort in reinventing the wheel.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, Jacob C.

**Area 35 Website Content- Bob B.** Set up action committee content on website. Action committees will be responsible for content. Tech Support and Webmaster will get content on the web. Need more information for newcomers but also need information for professionals. 95% of website is about service.

**Area Committee Chair Report on Collaboration with Districts-**

**Sarah K.** All area committee chairs and officers are available to work with districts. Districts can invite area chairs and officers and area folks can invite themselves to districts and inform on services and assistance that they can provide to districts.

**MN Tourism Jeff C.** Travel Plazas that are staffed print out a one-page information sheet on AA in MN for visitors who ask about AA. Jeff C. is working with our area and Area 36 in updating the AA assistance line contact numbers on this PI piece.

**Calendar of Events- Rodney S.** Summary of future events published in Northern Light. Area Committee Meeting, August 3, Aitkin, MN; Fall Assembly, October 4-5 Grand Rapids, MN.

**Meeting Adjourned with The Lords Prayer**

**Big Book “Musts”—a contribution from District 15**

Most—if not all—of us have been in discussions or debates about whether or not there are rules in A.A., as well as the arguments over what you can and can’t do. The following is a listing of “musts” found in the first 164 pages of the Big Book. The new DCM from District 15 sent this to me with a brief message that the ideology behind them is that if everyone would abide by the “musts” found in the text of Alcoholics Anonymous then we would have no need for any of the “rules,” thus distinguishing any controversy over what we can and cannot do.

A big thanks to Melissa M. for contributing and Pat M., also from District 15, for coming forward with the article.

1. Pg. 62. Above everything, we alcoholics must be rid of this selfishness.

2. Pg. 62. We must or it kills us.

3. Pg. 69. Whatever our ideal turns out to be, we must be willing to grow toward it.

4. Pg. 69. We must be willing to make amends where we had done harm, provided that we do not bring about still more harm in so doing.

5. Pg. 73. We must be entirely honest with somebody if we expect to live long or happily in this world.

6. Pg. 74 Those of us belonging to a religious denomination which requires confession must, and of course, will want to go to the properly appointed authority whose duty it is to receive it.

7. Pg. 74. The rule is we must be hard on ourselves, but always considerate of others.

8. Pg. 75. But we must not use this as a mere excuse to postpone.

9. Pg. 78. We must lose our fear of creditors no matter how far we have to go, for we are liable to drink if we are afraid to face them.

10. Pg. 79. We must not shrink at anything.

11. Pg. 80. If we have obtained permission, have consulted with others, asked God to help and the drastic step is indicated we must not shrink.

12. Pg. 81. In fairness we must say that she may understand, but what are we going to do about a thing like that?

13. Pg. 82. Certainly he must keep sober, for there shall be no home if he doesn’t.

14. Pg. 83. Yes, there is a long period of reconstruction ahead. We must take the lead.

15. Pg. 83. We must remember that ten or twenty years of drunkenness would make a skeptic out of anyone.

16. Pg. 85. Every day is a day when we must carry the vision of God’s will into all our activities.

17. Pg. 85. These are thoughts which must go with us constantly.

18. Pg. 85. But we must go further and that means more action.

19. Pg. 86. But we must be careful not to drift into worry, remorse, or morbid reflection, for that would diminish our usefulness to others.

20. Pg. 89. To watch people recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up about you, to have a host of friends—this experience you must not miss.

21. Pg. 90. The family must decide these things.

22. Pg. 95. After doing that, he must decide for himself whether he wants to go on.

23. Pg. 95. if he is to find god, the desire must come from within.
24. Pg. 99. in many homes this is a difficult thing to do, but it must be done if any results are to be expected.

25. Pg. 99. But we must try to repair the damage immediately lest we pay the penalty by a spree.

26. Pg. 99: If there old relationship is to be resumed it must be on a better basis, since the former did not work.

27. Pg. 111: Our Next thought is that you should never tell him what he should do about his drinking.

28. Pg. 115: But you must be on guard not to embarrass or harm your husband.

29. Pg. 115: You will no longer be self-conscious or feel that you must apologize as though your husband was a weak character.

30. Pg. 117: Often you must carry the burden of avoiding them or keeping them under control.

31. Pg. 118: You must not expect too much.

32. Pg. 120: Your husband will see at once that he must redouble his spiritual exercises if he is to survive. (from chapter “To Wives)

33. Pg.127: The family must realized that dad, though marvelously improved, is still convalescing.

34. Pg.127: But he must see the danged of over-concentration on financial success.

35. Pg. 127: We know there are difficult wives and families, but the man who is getting over alcoholism must remember he did much to make them so.

36. Pg. 130: That is where are fellow travelers are, and that is where our work must be done.

37. Pg. 135: The others must be convinced of his new status beyond a shadow of a doubt.

38. Pg. 141: State that you know about his drinking, and that it must stop.

39. Pg. 143: Though you are providing him with the best possible medical attention, he should understand that he must undergo a change of heart.

40. Pg. 144: When the man is presented with this volume it is best that no one tell him he must abide by its suggestions.

41. Pg. 144: The man must decide for himself.

42. Pg. 146: For he knows he must be honest if he would live at all.

43. Pg. 153: They will approach still other sick ones and fellowships of Alcoholics Anonymous may spring up in every city and hamlet, havens for those who must find a way out.

44. Pg. 154: There must be many such in this town.

45. Pg. 156: Both saw that they must keep spiritually active.

46. Pg. 159: Though they knew they must help other alcoholics if they would remain sober that motive became secondary.

47. Pg. 164: God will determine that, so you must remember that your real reliance is always upon Him.



SELF SUPPORT FLYER

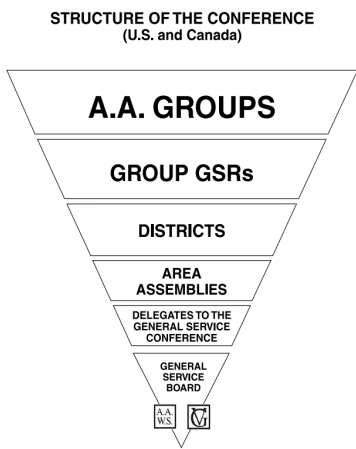


**Where does the money go?** Essentially Area 35’s purpose and responsibility is to perpetuate Alcoholics Anonymous. In its beginnings, our society expressed many needs of which were born many services. There were pleas for help, guidance, and support at the group level. We needed literature, updated meeting lists, good publicity, and cooperation with hospitals, legal entities, and treatment centers. And, we needed someone to facilitate all these services. It became clear very quickly to Bill that in order to ensure the health of AA as a whole, we needed a General Service Structure that could help meet the varied and ongoing needs of the group. Our ultimate goal in Area 35 is to ensure that AA groups in Northern MN (and worldwide) have the ability to continue to thrive, and carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic. To do this, it is obvious we still need many services: archives, public information, corrections, literature, Grapevine, Cooperation with the Professional Community, and treatment facilities.

**This, then is the function of Area 35: to build a healthy environment, that AA may continue to flourish and meet the needs of alcoholics, for so long as we are needed.** One way we do this is through providing a venue and opportunities for the groups (through their representatives) to communicate their wishes, concerns, and questions through the service structure, as well as addressing the needs of AA locally. In order to do this, the Area Committee (Area Officers and Area Action Committee Members) was formed and area events (Winter Workshop, four Area Committee Meetings, and Two Assemblies) were set up. (More about this can be found in the AA service manual).



Clearly we need people to oversee the successful and ongoing functioning of our Area Committee: a treasurer to pay bills and collect contributions, a secretary to record the minutes and Area actions, an Area Chair to set up and facilitate all the events, an Alternate Delegate to set up the Winter Workshop and Zonal Forums and be informed on everything the Delegate knows in case they need to stand in for the delegate, and a Delegate to carry our conscience to the General Service Conference once a year in NY to share our Area’s conscience and fulfill the responsibility given to us by Bill and Dr. Bob: *to be responsible guardians of our world services and Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.*



Then we have Area Action Committee chairs who also provide various services and fulfill duties that help the Area to function successfully as a whole. **The chairs’ purpose is to serve the groups by ensuring that AA, as it relates to their committee, is healthy.** The group records chair records all Area 35 group information and updates GSO as well as encourages groups to get registered; the webmaster updates and maintains the Area websites which list all the registered groups and events in the Area; the archivist maintains an awesome stock of archival materials for the Area; the literature chair orders and provides literature; and the Northern Lights editor compiles and edits our newsletter which

we use to communicate with the groups. The Area also prints and distributes the Northern Light, a newsletter outlining the activities of the Area. Other Area Action Committee chairs regularly chair meetings with participants from the districts to discuss issues related to doing Twelfth Step work and meeting the groups’ needs. These include the archives chair, public information chair, corrections chair, literature chair, grapevine chair, CPC chair, and treatment chair. You will find these chairs meeting at the four area committee meetings (located in Aitkin) and two assemblies. They also frequently hold workshops to assist and inform AA members.

*Maintaining a strong service structure through self-support and participation is vital, for without it the groups become disconnected from the Area and from the General Service Office. Then, the groups can no longer communicate their thoughts, opinions or ideas to the Area or the General Service Office. When this happens, we are no longer responsible for our third legacy; instead of a fellowship, we have the seeds of a dictatorship or tyranny where the few govern for the many.*

Perhaps one of our most important services to our groups is our role of the link to the General Service Office. It is our responsibility to ensure that the General Service Office and Conference remain committed to the Traditions and serving the fellowship, while never becoming the “seat of perilous wealth or power.” This is only accomplished



through the sharing of our group’s consciences at Area events, which are only possible with the ongoing financial support received from the groups. So you see, all area chairs are there to serve the groups, but to fulfill our duties of service, funds are required.

THE BIRTHDAY PLAN

provides an opportunity for individual AA members to show their gratitude for their sobriety each year on their AA birthday. AA members who take part in the **BIRTHDAY PLAN** send money on the anniversary of their sobriety as a way to show their gratitude. Please share this wonderful plan with your group members, and encourage them to show their gratitude for all AA has given them by sending a birthday contribution to:  
Northern MN Area Assembly

If each registered group would contribute **\$1.00 a month to GSO**, our Office would be fully self-supporting. Similarly, in Area 35 if each of the 232 actively contributing groups (41% of the 555 registered groups) would contribute **\$12.88 a month or \$2.86 per week to Area 35**, it would fully cover the Area’s monthly financial needs of **\$2,900.00**.

Remember, financial contributions to the Area are simply another way of extending the hand of AA to the alcoholic in need! So, I encourage each of you to discuss the importance of self-support at your groups and emphasize the **BIRTHDAY PLAN!** We certainly are so fortunate to have the lives we do, what better way to show our gratitude, than through a monthly group or **BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTION!**

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 in-
- clude 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:	Northern Light Submissions
<p><b>Editor</b> - 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.</p> <p><b>Desirable qualifications:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>N.L. Committee</b> - 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.</p> <p><b>N.L. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:</b> 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.</p>	<p>General submissions to the <i>Northern Light</i> 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.</p> <p>Submissions are preferred electronically using a Word or WordPad document to the Area’s newsletter e-mail address: <a href="mailto:northernlight@area35.org">northernlight@area35.org</a>. 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.</p> <p>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 <i>Northern Light</i>, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you!</p> <p>Rodney S. Northern Light Editor</p>

TWELVE CONCEPTS for WORLD SERVICE (Short Form)

- I. Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

II. The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.

III. To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.”

IV. At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in a reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

V. Throughout our structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.

VI. The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.

VII. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon traditional and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.
- VIII. The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

IX. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

X. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

XI. The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

XII. The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

Area Committee Meeting—August 3rd - 9:00 am

Aitkin Alano Club

322 First Avenue N.E.

Aitkin, MN

ZONAL FORUM ZONE 3— Saturday, Sep 13, 2014

DISTRICTS 5, 6, 7, 11, 13 and 18

8300 Town Hall Rd SW

Fort Ripley, MN

Area 35 Fall Assembly—October 4th & 5th, 2014

Saw Mill Inn

2301 Pokegama Avenue

Grand Rapids, MN

(218) 326-8501

Joint Area 35, 36 Workshop—November 1st

Calvary Church

1200 Roosevelt Rd.

St. Cloud, MN 56031

Area Committee Meeting — December 7th - 9:00 am

Aitkin Alano Club

322 First Avenue N.E.

Aitkin, MN

Area 35 January Service Workshop

January 17– 18th

Barkers Island Resort & Conference Center

Superior, WI

July 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Canada Day	2	3	4 Independence Day	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		U.S. Federal Holidays are in Red.
Http://www.Printfree.com						

August 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
U.S. Federal Holidays are in Red.					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
Http://www.Printfree.com						

Upcoming Events in Areas 35 & 36

note: Area 35 events take precedence !

Keep It Simple Weekend

August 8—10th, 2014

Camp Chicagami

Pleasant Lake (south of Eveleth, MN)

District 3 4th Annual Roundup Reunion

August 30th, 2014

Lion’s Park Shelter, Lakeshore Drive

Battle Lake, MN

Heartland Round-Up

September 5—7th, 2014

Northern Pines Assembly Grounds

Park Rapids, MN

North Dakota State Round-Up

Oct 3 – 5, 2014

1200 South 42nd Street

Grand Forks, ND 58201

Area 36 Committee Meeting

Saturday, Aug 9, 2014

1111 Range St.

Mankato, MN 55006



Meet new friends and see old ones!

District 3 Fourth Annual Roundup Reunion

Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Lion's Park Shelter, Lakeshore Drive, Battle Lake, MN

District 3 invites you to have a day of Fun with games, tennis, horseshoes, swimming and the 3 F's; Fishing, Food & Fellowship.

Meet your Current District 3 Officers and visit with past ones

Activities start at 1:30 with Delegate Report, Potluck picnic at 5:30 and Speakers at 6:30

Al-Anon – Sharon B. (Grand Forks, ND)

AA – Ole B. (Grand Forks, ND)

Ice cream social to follow speakers

A five dollar donation is suggested for Roundup

RECURRING EVENTS:

District 11:

Mora Wednesday Night A.A.

Pot Luck—First Saturday of every month at Industries Inc. at 6:00 pm.

AA and Alanon Speakers at 7:00 pm.

Area 35 Fall Assembly

October 4-5, 2014

Sawmill Inn

2301 Pokegama Ave

Grand Rapids, Mn

\$94.00 a night plus tax

cut off date to register and get group rate Sept 12, 2014

call 218-326-8501 to register and give "Area 35 Assembly" name to get group rate





AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETING

Agenda

August 3, 2014

_____ 9:00 A.M. Action Chair Committee Meetings	_____ District 13 – Christine G.
_____ (9:30 a.m. Financial Oversight Committee)	_____ District 11 – Bill C.
_____ 10:30 A.M. Area Committee Meeting	_____ GRAPEVINE – Antonette F.
_____ Call to Order Open With the Serenity Prayer	_____ District 8 – Jerry B.
_____ Recognize Past Delegates	_____ District 15 – Melissa M.
_____ Add to Agenda	_____ PI – Jeff C.
_____ Approve June 2014 Committee Minutes	_____ District 5 – Dean M.
	_____ District 4 – Rey F.
	_____ CORRECTIONS – Skip D.
OFFICER REPORTS	_____ District 2 – Michael H.
_____ Delegate – Michael J. GSC Report	_____ District 9 – Fred H.
_____ Alternate Delegate – Kelly D.	_____ ARCHIVES – Pete B.
_____ Chair – Sarah K.	_____ District 12 – Rillis E.
_____ Secretary – Roger R.	_____ District 18 – Neil R.
_____ Treasurer – Randy A.	_____ ARCHIVIST – Brad I.
COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS	
_____ NORTHERN LIGHT – Rodney S.	12:00 P.M. Lunch
_____ District 14 – Deb A.	12:45 P.M. Reconvene
_____ LITERATURE – Jim. S.	
_____ District 3 – Steve D.	OLD BUSINESS
_____ District 1 – Jon S.	_____ Area 35 Assemblies-2015-2017
_____ Web Technologies Report — Bob B.	_____ Financial Oversight Committee Report
_____ CPC – Servando M.	_____ Fall Assembly Format
_____ District 16 – Griffin M.	_____ Area Committee Chair Reports on collabo-
_____ District 7 – Carl P.	_____ ration with Districts
_____ WEBMASTER – Sandy H.	
_____ TREATMENT – Paul M.	NEW BUSINESS
_____ District 21 – Irv R.	_____ Area 35 website Content
_____ District 6 – Garrett B.	_____ AA meeting locator
_____ GROUP RECORDS – Rolene L.	_____ Calendar of Events



... This alcoholic Londoner turned up before a magistrate. He had been picked up stiff drunk. His bottle was empty. The magistrate said, “Did you drink it all?” “Oh, yes.” “Why did you drink it all?” “Because I lost the cork.”

*Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*, page 80