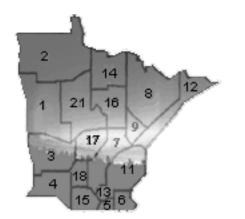
NMAA

NONPROFIT ORG U. S. Postage Paid Permit 1 Cold Spring, MN 56320



Deadline for the next Northern Light is March 8th, 2016

This is YOUR Newsletter.

Please send your questions or comments for publication to Rodney S. at <u>NorthernLight@area35.org</u>

# Please bring extra copies to share with your group!

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





	AREA 35 NORTHERN MINNESOTA
Zone I	

District 1 - Ada, Crookston, Erskine, Fertile, Fosston, Mahnomen, Naytahwaush, Red Lake Falls, Twin Valley, Waubun,

- District 2 Badger, Baudette, Grygla, Hallock, Halma, Middle River, Rainy River (Ontario, Canada), Roseau, Stephen, Thief River Falls, Warren, Warroad, Williams
- **District 16** Bowstring, Boy River, Cohasset, Deer River, Effie, Grand Rapids, Hill City, Lawrence Lake\*, Longville, Remer
- District 21 Akeley, Bagley, Bemidji, Blackduck, Cass Lake, Debs, Menahga, Onigum, Park Rapids, Red Lake, Shevlin, Solway, Squaw Lake, Walker

### Zone II

- District 3 Audubon, Barnesville, Battle Lake, Cormorant, Deer Creek, Detroit Lakes, Dilworth, Elizabeth, Erhard, Fergus Falls, Frazee, Hawley, Henning, Lake Park, Moorhead, Osage, Ottertail, Pelican Rapids, Perham, Underwood, Wadena
- District 4 Alexandria, Browns Valley, Carlos, Elbow Lake, Evansville, Glenwood, Herman, Kensington, Morris, Osakis

**District 15** - Albany, Avon, Cold Spring, Holdingford, Lake Henry, Melrose,

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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, Wahkon
- 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,

\* 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. **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**

#### **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

pg:

Alano Club 827 Summit Avenue Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

#### **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

Last Sunday of Month, 6:00 p.m. Hibbing Alano Club 3725<sup>1st</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 16**

1st Wednesday of Month, 6:30 p.m. United Methodist Church 1701 S.E. 5<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 2015**

<u>AREA OFFICER</u>S DELEGATE KELLY D delegate@area35.org

**WEBMASTER** RODNEY S

TREATMENT

Gavle R

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

ROGER R Alt\_delegate@area35.org

AREA CHAIR JIM S areachair@area35.org

TREASURER CHRISTINE G

treasurer@area35.org

**SECRETARY** Rillis E secretary@area35.org

#### AREA COMMITTEE **CHAIRS**

PUBLIC INFORMATION Mark N pi@area35.org

ARCHIVES STEVE D archives@area35.org ARCHIVIST BRAD I archivist@area35.org

CORRECTIONS SERVANDO M corrections@area35.org

**LITERATURE** Skip D literature@area35.org

GRAPEVINE PAUL M grapevine@area35.org

COOPERATION WITH THE **PROFESSIONAL COMMU-**NITY (C.P.C.) Jim T cpc@area35.org

webmaster@area35.org

# **GROUP RECORDS**

ROBERT (BOB) B grouprecords@area35.org

**NORTHERN LIGHT** JACOB C

northernlight@area35.org

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

**DISTRICT 1** Leslie H dcm1@area35.org

DISTRICT 2 Myron H dcm2@area35.org

**DISTRICT 3** Brian P dcm3@area35.org

DISTRICT 4 Debbie S dcm4@area35.org

DISTRICT 5 JOHN S dcm5@area35.org **DISTRICT 6** Renell P dcm6@area35.org

DISTRICT 7 Liz L dcm7@area35.org

**DISTRICT 8** Scott M

treatment@area35.org **DISTRICT 9** Cathy R

dcm9@area35.org

dcm8@area35.org

DISTRICT 11 Sharla W dcm11@area35.org

DISTRICT 12

Steve E dcm12@area35.org

DISTRICT 13 Allan K

dcm13@area35.org DISTRICT 14

Paul E dcm14@area35.org

**DISTRICT 15** Melissa A dcm15@area35.org

**DISTRICT 16** Mike F dcm16@area35.org

**DISTRICT 18** NEIL R dcm18@area35.org

**DISTRICT 21** Jeffrey L dcm21@area35.org

DISTRICT 17 NO INFO

#### **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

### **AREA 35 EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

#### Where is the Aitkin Alano Club?

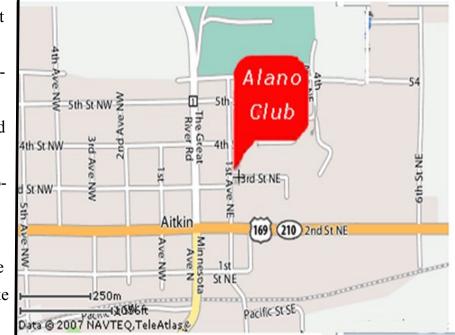
Area 35 holds committee meetings in February, June, August and December at the Aitkin Alano Club 322 1st Ave. N.E. Aitkin, MN.

**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 re-

Page 3

- spective 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



### **OUR PAST DELEGATES**

Panel 64	2014-1015					
Michael "Jake J	2011 1010	Panel 28	1978-1979	Panel 4	1954-1955	
		Garfield (Duffy		Wendell H	175+1755	
Panel 62	2012-2013	(deceased)				
Jim K		(		(deceased)		
		Panel 26	1976-1977			
Panel 60	2010-2011	Vern R		Panel 2	1952-1953	
Jon C		(deceased)		Arthur R		
		(decensea)		(deceased)		
Panel 58	2008-2009	Panel 24	1074 1075	× ·		
JoAnne M. N			1974-1975			
D	2007 2007	Gordon B. H				
Panel 56 Jerry S	2006-2007					
Jerry S		Panel 22	1972-1973			
Panel 54	2004-2005	Frank P. J				
Charlie C	200 I 2000	(deceased)				
Panel 52	2002-2003	Panel 20	1970-1971			
Tim C		Clarence B				
		(deceased)				
Panel 50	2000-2001	(ucceased)				
Tom A		<b>B</b> 110	10/0 10/0			
		Panel 18	1968-1969			
Panel 48	1998-1999	Dave H				
Susie A		(deceased)				
Panel 46	1996-1997					
Bill P	1770-1777	Panel 16	1966-1967			
Dlii r		Arno A				
Panel 44	1994-1995	(deceased)				
Bruce B	1// 1 1//0	× .				
Diacon		Panel 14	1964-1965			
Panel 42	1992-1993	Donald F	1/01 1/00			
Greg G		(deceased)				
		(ueceaseu)				
Panel 40	1990-1991	B 144	10/0 10/0			
Bob J		Panel 12	1962-1963			
		Donna T				
Panel 38	1988-1989	(deceased)				
Scott J						
B	1007 1007	Panel 10	1960-1961			
<b>Panel 36</b> Louie H	1986-1987	Bob B				
Louie n		(deceased)				
Panel 34	1984-1985					
Bob P	1707-1705	Panel 8	1958-195	Q		
D001		Pearl N	1/00 1/0			
Panel 32	1982-1983	(deceased)				
Tom L		(ueceaseu)				
Panel 30	1981-1982	Panel 6	1956-195	7		
Don M		Waldo H				
(deceased)		(deceased)				
		(ucccuseu)				
			<b>TL. D.L</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.
- 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

- 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.

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.

A Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.s future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.

### **OFFICER REPORTS**

### **DELEGATE'S REPORT**

Greeting Area 35. Well here we are at the start of another rotation of service in Area 35. I am truly humbled to be serving as your Area 35, Panel 66 Delegate and I look forward to serving with many of you as we continue to carry our message of hope to the still suffering alcoholic. I have been very busy with the many emails I have received already from GSO, along with filling out the paperwork from my packet that needs to be done for the upcoming 2016 General Service Conference and also information from the WCRAASC Committee. The thought crossed my mind several times, what a tough job it must have been communicating for our past Delegates before modern technology, the internet and the use of emails...wow! I have a great respect for those that came before me. And yes, you too have received several emails already from me as I am passing on the information to all of you when I receive it. I appreciate all of you for getting back to me and letting me know if you wanted a CD or hard copy of the 2016 Agenda Items along with your contact information. You should have all received the Preliminary Agenda Items already from me. I will have the CD's and hard copies for all of you at our upcoming Aitkin Committee Meeting Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. I do hope to see many of you at our WCRAASC that will be in Bismarck, North Dakota March 5-7<sup>th</sup> because that will be the start of discussing those Agenda Items with our friends from our West Central Region. Area 35 has also been assigned three presentations and a breakout session during this conference. I would like to thank Skip, our Area 35 Literature Chair for moderating the Literature/Grapevine breakout session and DCM's Al District 13, Steve District 12 and Melissa District 15 for their willingness to present on topics under the title "Connecting With Each Other." I believe Area 35 will be well represented at this conference. I will also be serving on the Finance Committee during my rotation at the General Service Conferences and although I am not sure I know much about finances, I am confident that I will learn and it will be a good committee to be a part of. Also please keep in mind that your comments/concerns are always welcomed. I am here to serve you and I am available at any time if you have questions or I can be of service to you in your respective service positions or otherwise as members of Alcoholics Anonymous. Our Area 35 Service Workshop was held in St. Cloud January 16-17th with a good turnout even with the very cold weather. As part of my duties as past Alternate Delegate, I set up this Workshop which I truly enjoyed. I am sure Roger, our Alternate Delegate will feel the same when he sets up the next two in his rotation. I want to thank all that were involved, the District presenters, District 13 for hosting this event and Roger for chairing. I cannot say enough about our guests Brooke C. and Carl B. that had amazing presentations on the 12 Concepts and 12 Traditions and Carl sharing his story with all of us. A very special thank you to Tom and Susie our past Delegates for opening their home to both of them over the weekend and as always providing the ice cream for our ice cream social Saturday evening. The facility was great and they kept us with plenty of coffee and the hotel accommodation were also good. Nothing like a clean room and a great breakfast in the morning! I look forward to hearing the evaluations from those that attended that weekend. Thank you all again for the opportunity to serve Area 35. In love and service. Kelly D. Area 35 Delegate

#### AREA CHAIR'S REPORT

Hello Everyone, I wanted to thank all the districts that presented at the Workshop last weekend. As always, it was a great experience for me to listen to the wisdom from all the presenters. I found both the speakers quite interesting, but I must admit that Brooke's rendition of the 12 Concepts was especially interesting to me. I would like to thank District 13 for hosting the event. These events take quite a bit of effort to pull off and the volunteers that worked the weekend should be recognized. I would like to thank Kelly D., our Delegate for putting this together and to Roger R., our Alt. Delegate, for chairing the event.

As I have been settling into this new position, I would like to thank all of you for allowing my this opportunity. As I look ahead to the busy schedule of the spring leading up to the GSC, I am excited to see what will happen. There are many events that I will get the chance to hopefully meet more and more of you. I would like all of you to know that I am here to assist in anyway I can. I will not have all the answers to your questions as no ever will, but I will make every effort to ask those that have come before me for the answers you seek. In any event, we will both be learning something new. My fear of this position as slowly become one of excitement as I begin to see how little I know and what I will learn from this opportunity

Christine and I have finished up with the budgets and she will be getting them into the Northern Light for review. I will be emailing the DCM's and Past Delegates copies of the budgets as well. Please take the time to review these and be prepared with your questions by the Spring Assembly so we can have an informed vote whether or not to pass these, alter or send them back to the drawing board. I want to thank everyone that submitted a budget on time so we can get them out to the Area in accordance with the requirement set forth in the Area Actions booklet.

Speaking of which, I understand Roger will be completing the updates to the Actions Booklet in the near future. We will make them available at the ACM's and the Spring Assembly. I have found it to be an invaluable resource as I have started to read through it. In service, Jim S.

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Thank you for letting me be of service to Area 35 by serving as your secretary. Since being elected I have reviewed the Area Secretary Guidelines and created a budget for 2016. I am grateful Roger R. made time to meet with me during the Service Workshop to discuss the role of the secretary and sharing his experience while serving in this position. Roger also gave me a memory stick which contains examples of fliers, minutes, budgets, etc. Bob B upgraded a district lap top which I will be using during this rotation. I am grateful to be able to use this lap top and for Bob's time to make the computer more efficient. I attended the Service Workshop in St. Cloud and want to thank the districts that presented on the theme: "Our Spiritual Way of Life: Steps, Traditions, and Concepts". I also appreciated the presentations by Carl and Brooke on the Traditions and Con-

### **ALTERNATE DELEGATE'S REPORT**

Greetings Area 35, I would like to thank Area 35 for allowing me to serve you as your Alternate Delegate. I have been closely following Kelly D. our Delegate in information and communication that she receives on the upcoming General Service Conference. I am looking forward to seeing you all at the February Committee Meeting in Aitkin MN. I am also looking forward to attending the WCAARSC in Bismarck ND in March. My first responsibility for this rotation was to chair the annual Service Workshop. Yours in Service Roger R. cepts. I'm always interested in gaining a greater understanding of these topics. I look forward to see everyone again in February at the Area Committee Meeting. Yours in service, Rillis E.

### TREASURER

Greetings, I have been adjusting to my new position as your Area Treasurer. I had my first experience fulfilling my duties at the Service Workshop. It all went well. I am learning how to enter deposits and checks into Quick Books and will be working on financial reports for Period 1 at the end of January. Thank you Randy for all your help.

Something I took away from the workshop is how much work and dedication trusted servants put into the weekend. All the work it takes behind the scenes in preparing for the event to take place, the districts getting together to put together the presentations, the guest presenters and speakers that travel from their home state and leave their families to give of themselves selflessly, the Literature and Grapevine Committee Chairs that

#### Page 6

#### (Continued from page 5)

put out their displays and the Archivist that also has a display of the wonderful history of our fellowship and provides the sound system for the workshop. It is amazing to me the time people set aside to attend these events and make these workshops successful and informative. Thank you to everyone for making this service workshop a great experience and to District 13 for hosting the event.

I have written letters to all the groups and have started mailing them. I am hoping that the letter will inform the groups how their contributions are used by the Area and encourage additional Seventh Tradition contributions especially from those groups that have not contributed the past year. Your group's total contribution for 2015 is included in the letter and if there are any discrepancies, please let me know.

Also, please include your group number on all contributions. This will ensure that your contributions get credited to your group.

I have also been busy working with Jim collecting and finalizing Area budgets that will be in this Northern Light edition. As I have been learning Quick Books, I have found some information I would like to share:

The Income and Expense Trend is showing Income verses Expenses for each month through 2015.



The new address for mailing contributions is: NMAA **PO Box 401 Becker, MN 55308** 

Thank you for this opportunity to serve Area 35. In Service, Christine G. - Area 35 Treasurer

### few words on Social Media:

Social media websites such as Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn provide unique opportunities for colleagues to get to know each other, share experiences and keep in contact. It is important to be aware of the risks associated with using these sites, to act in a manner that does not embarrass yourself and to refrain from sharing your private information publicly. Despite site privacy settings, you should always assume that anything you post online can never be removed and can be viewed by anyone with an Internet connection, including cyber and traditional criminals as well as identity thieves. Not only does this present a risk to you personally, it can also be a risk to Area 35, AA, and any members on a "friends" list.

### **SPECIAL REMINDER for CONTRIBUTIONS:**

With the new rotation of officers there is also a new Area 35 Treasure's address. Be sure to contact the new officers regarding contributions and look for the new address in the next issue of the Northern Light.

The **Prev Year Income Comparison** is showing group contributions for the past 5 years. Since 2013, contributions have been increasing. Thank you let's keep the trend moving upward.



### **PUBLIC INFORMATION (PI)**

Thanks to Jim S. for placing his trust in me for Public Information chair, I will do my best to fulfill the position. I attended the winter workshop in St. Cloud on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of January, the presenting districts all did great presentations with much discussion of the language of the heart and how to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic, our primary purpose. I was also impressed with the 2 invited speakers from Wyoming, Brook and Carl, excellent presentations on the Concepts and Traditions. I am recharged and ready for Area service after this 4 - year hiatus. Some of the possible goals and topics we will be discussing at our PI break out this February meeting will be, bringing AA into the schools – Utilizing Grapevine and Box 459 in P.I work – Book and literature distribution in professional offices, libraries, travel centers etc. understanding anonymity at the public level. I will be in touch with District PI Chairs and am ready to help with Districts who have yet to fill the PI positions. Thanks, yours in service Mark N.



January/February 2016

(Continued from page 6)

**TREATMENT** Report submitted, file corrupted and not fixable by printing

### CORRECTIONS No Report

#### ARCHIVES No Report

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

Report submitted, file corrupted and not fixable by printing

### **LITERATURE**

Good day everyone, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Area 35 for the service position as Literature Chair, I will do my best to fulfill the responsibilities of this position. Before the Workshop in St. Cloud 1/16/16, I was able to inventory the books we have on hand. I did give Jim S. (Area Chair) a copy of the list of books. Just to let you know I am in the process of making an inventory of the pamphlets we have on hand.

I was able to attend the January Workshop, and we sold \$433.50 in literature. Thank you all. At the Workshop there were people asking for literature that were not in the inventory, if you feel we should stock literature that we do not have, Please let me know. We can get it and have it available at Assemblies, Workshops and Committee meetings. That is one of my responsibilities. Speaking of things we don't have, at the Workshop we had 200 copies of the A.A.General Service Conference Inventory. Thank you Jake (Area 35 past Delegate) for making those available. At the Workshop we had approx. 107 people in attendance, yet I know of twelve people that did not get one. Late Saturday afternoon I open the last box of copies, Sunday morning I went to the 7 am Big Book meeting, and all the copies were gone. Before we reconvened Sunday morning, I had three people come up to me asking for copies of the General Service Conference Inventory. I did ask Roger (Area 35 Alt. Delegate) to make an announcement to bring back the inventory copies, so the ones that were at the Workshop could get a copy. One did come back, so I gave it to Kelly (Area 35 Delegate) for she did not have a copy. I may be wrong, but I do feel that it is very important that the people who do show up for service should have the information available at that time, then the rest can go elsewhere what ever is available.

I do look forward to serving as Area 35 Literature Chair, and to let you know I did receive a check to open a checking account for ordering literature orders. If I can be of help in anyway Please let me know. email: literature@area35.org phone: 612-803 -7140 if no answer please leave a message Thank you, Yours in service, Skip D.

that were it not for this great program and fellowship I would not have been able to accomplish the many things I have already accomplished—indeed, would not have even attempted. Thanks, once more, for the opportunity to serve, Rodney S.

These are the statistics for Area35.org for January:

Month	Unique visi- tors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2016	1,775	2,668	8,180	94,972	1.85 GB

#### **GROUP RECORDS**

**Out with the past** and in with the new. We finished up the Webmaster and Technology duties. Four laptops were updated to windows 10. Memory and Office 2016 was upgraded on our Secretary's laptop. I still have 1 laptop with old software running Windows Vista. I'd like to recycle this laptop. Our Area Chair wanted to understand more about the position of Webmaster and what knowledge is needed to be successful as Webmaster. Using that tools available on our website, Jim added the area archivist job description and e-mail to the area 35 officers page. An American Sign Language, ASL, search was added to aaMeetingLocator.

In with the new. I was given my login and passwords to get access to the GSO Group Records database on January 15th. Little by little I am getting through the backlog of updates. Along with the passwords came manuals on how to use the database. The main manual is 200 pages plus 5 updates. This is some of the best documentation that I have seen in a long time. The manuals explain how, what, and why about updating the Group Records database. Some of the information could be used by districts and groups filling out group information. After I get caught up entering updates I am going to add a local records update page to our web site.

There is a lot of support available to a group records chair. Our past Record Keeper, GSO records staff, I have been assigned a mentor, and there is a Records support group that I have joined. One rule of database manage management is that data stored in two separate databases will always be out of sync. Our Northern Light mailing list is an Excel spreadsheet. The spreadsheet can be populated directly from our GSO Group Records database. This is not what we are doing. When the Group Records database is update our Northern Light database needs to be updated. We should be able to improve on this process. Bob B. Group Records grouprecords@area35.org 218-232-4625

#### NORTHERN LIGHT

Greetings. My name is Jacob "Little Jake" or just Jake C. I forgot how daunting of a task it is to edit a publication for print! Due to a mini disaster, past deadline I found out that I had emailed the wrong publisher. After getting the correct publisher's email, I went to resubmit and found 23 hours worth of work miss-

#### GRAPEVINE No Report

### WEBMASTER

Greetings Area 35, With much regret I contacted Jim, our Area Chair, just before the January Service Workshop to let him know that I would not be able to continue as webmaster for Area 35. Area 35 is looking at different options regarding the website, its maintenance, and who might be available to fill the position; all of this will be discussed at our February Area Committee Meeting in Aitkin.

Rather than walking away at this time I will continue to do as much as I can in working with Bob to maintain the website until someone else is chosen to fill the position. I do not feel that I have the time available to learn and perform all the tasks that need to be done in regards to the website, that need to be taken care of in a timely manner, so as to serve the area according to its immediate needs.

I am grateful for everyone's support and am deeply aware

ing. If you use Microsoft One Drive, make sure you have the "One Drive" app installed on your computer or the files that are supposed to be getting sent to the cloud will not be. Since I upgraded operating systems and did not backup my OneDrive folder, I had to try and recover all the documents within. This lead to only recovering most of the Word documents, some were corrupted.

Amateur hour is over, and I am now running at fullspeed, taking 2 days to do 14hours work on the NL. Later issues will be much better, with more care to cleaning up contextual issues in minutes.

I would prefer documents submitted for publication to be format free, i.e., no columns, using either PDF of any version of Microsoft productivity compatible documents, Excel, Word, etc. Please refrain from using color as it will be moot for printing, grayscale will work much better. Yours in Service, Jacob C.

## **AREA 35 JANUARY WORKSHOP MINUTES TUSCAN CENTER-MIDTOWN SQUARE, ST. CLOUD MN**

**January 16-17, 2016** 

#### Attendance 107

Credits Thank you to Al K. District 13 DCM for organizing coverage of coffee sales and registration throughout the workshop. Thank you to Kelly D. Area 35 Delegate for coordinating district presentations and arranging for the workshop facility in her role as outgoing Alternate Delegate. I would like to thank Carl B. and Brooke C. for traveling to our workshop and their excellent service presentations. I would also like to thank Districts

11,5,14,12,13,8 and 3 for preparing and delivering excellent presentations at the service workshop.

#### **Workshop Presentations:**

#### **District 11: Connecting With The Newcomer: Home**

Group – Where It Begins Welcome newcomers. Welcome court ordered. Don't sign court cards until after meeting. Home group is where I am at home. Hang around winners at AA rather than users who still drink. Lost all, gained self respect, family and community back. Slogans work, one day at a time, first things first. If you want what we've got keep coming back and do it. If we have a higher power we are going to pass it on. Importance of giving newcomer a directory so they can call someone. Pass it on by picking up newcomer in trouble and taking them to a meeting. Without a sponsor never would have learned the 12 steps. Get newcomers into service work. Change group positions 5-6 times a year and have 5 positions in Happy Joyous and Free Group- successful for 15 years. Nice summary of what home groups do. Found home group from felony section of Pine County Jail- went to meetings there. People in jail meeting told me where the groups meet. Fellowship social evens are important. People can see we are having fun. Keeps them coming back.

Home group is the most important part of AA. Where we finally learn responsibility. Showing up, its all about change, making people comfortable, giving them a desire to stay sober. Jail attendees know it all and it works for them- 1/75 stay sober. Welcome them home to their jail meeting. Learned about nuts and bolts of AA as a GSR. Had 2 sponsors, one for service. Issue with people moving away from AA. Main step is step 11 today. Try to get a few points across to newcomers. Keep things simple- from Dr. Bob. Each of us has a wall we built in drinking- our program has a way of breaking down our wall. Puncture that wall with steps and sponsorship. Did what they told me, went to lots of jails and treatment centers.

Participation-Why is it important for a newcomer to have a home group? Best to encourage newcomers to have a home group so people get to know them and they learn to trust people.

#### **District 5: Anonymity- The Spiritual Foundation**

Dr. Bob and Good Old Timers- Dr. Bob, said all group members need to know each -other's first and last names. Long form tradition 11 and 12. Genuine humility. Anonymous to the public. Dr. Bobbreaking anonymity at level of press radio and film is for ego, not humility. Can also break anonymity at group level in too much privacy. History informs us on what does work.

Tradition 11. Can add TV, internet and social media. Each member is an active guardian of our fellowship. Anonymity is important for each of us and our groups.

service to God and people about us. Lack of power, where and how were we to find this power. Responsibility pledge. Tradition 1 Important to have all principles involved in AA. Introduction to SM by Bill W. Concept 5 minority opinion.

District 12: Informed Group Conscience – The Key to <u>Unity.</u> Group comes together in group conscience over one person prevailing. Minority voice is always heard. Tail wags dog if minority always influences majority. How do groups get more people to go to the groups conscience meeting? How to structure group conscience meeting. If one person tries to run the meeting it is a problem. Example; Leader said- too much positivity, to much greeting. Criticized treasurer who left and did not come back. 60 member meeting dwindled to 10. Thought about leaving but sponsor said he would screw up another meeting. Meeting is back to 40. Comfortable, safe, non-judgmental place to go. Solution- elect someone to run the group conscience meeting. Ensure everyone speaks. Don't let folks speak twice, manage the meeting. Substantial unanimity means almost everyone. (Presentation based much on experience.)

#### **District 13: Singleness of Purpose-Staying Pertinent in A Changing World**

(Well researched from AA literature and presented with PowerPoint slides.) History and background of Singleness of Purpose: Washingtonians started by 6 alcoholic members. Grew quicklybegan in 1840. Became involved in many issues and eventually faded away. AA Comes of Age- first reference by Bill W on our single purpose. Traditions. We stay whole of AA dies p. 129 12x12. Research from AA literature. Traditions 1, 3, 5, 4 hit singleness of purpose Steps 1, 12 also hit singleness of purpose. Closed meeting announcement. Open meeting announcement. Participation- 5 questions posed.

When do we know if we are dong something that affects AA as a whole? Example of Good Book-Big Book meeting can affect AA as a whole. Traditions will have more to determine our failure. If you violate one tradition it also violates 2 or 3 other traditions. Traditions are so tightly knit that they can't be "torn apart." Traditions define what AA stands for and what will keep us together- also inform us on what outside issues will tear us apart. We should cooperate with everyone but can't affiliate with anyone. We have but one primary purpose to carry the message. If the issue has very little to do with carrying our message- it is an outside issue. We neither endorse nor oppose any causes. If we neither endorse or oppose any causes we will not have arguments that could tear us apart. Traditions don't do any good if you just hang them on the wall or do one a month. Need to learn how to use the traditions in their entirety to keep AA whole. Nice to see this kind of workshop. "First place in ten years where I have hard a good discussion of the traditions" -Carl B. commentary,

"Exposed to steps in meetings that read How It Works at the beginning of almost every meeting."

District 8: Understanding Self- Support. Hit up envelopes for area, GSO and district. Also birthday contributions. Use of literature profits at GSO is an issue. Provide services we ask to provide through literature sales- is not self- support. Solution put more money into our baskets, reach out to groups who are not contributing with 7<sup>th</sup> tradition literature. Important to have 1-12 months of prudent reserve for groups. Do not have policies in place to define this. Amount of contribution is secondary to spiritual connections that bind us. Early Rockefeller dinner, John D. Rockefeller, said to AA, "money will only spoil this." Mothership is GSO. Two sources of revenue: contributions from us and literature sales. Lit. sales are from us and non-AA members. 2014 around \$7 million in group contributions by 41% of listed groups, whereas \$16 million plus total revenue with literature sales 50% of GSO's income. 2014 AAWS had to ask for more contributions or raise literature prices. 1.5 % increase in contributions. Questions: How do we feel about not being self-supporting or continuing to allow literature to support GSO in an age when the publishing industry isn't dong so well? Where is this going in the future. Where will it leave AA?

Tradition 12. We started as a secret society.. Tradition 12 is a key part of fellowship.

#### District 14: Be Involved, Be Inspired, Be of Service-Participating in all of AA.

District 14 went dark for a few years. A few decided to change that. Involvement in service is for the newcomer. Introduced 2 scenarios: 1-How do new people in AA get introduced to service? 2-How do people involved in service move on? Recovery does not end in steps- first part of 12. Reference to Concepts in SM. Invite and encourage sponsees to attend district meeting. Get them willing, excited. Service sponsorship plan in district works.

Scenario 1: Traditions are just as important as the steps. Living happy joyous and free. Most important in AA to greet the newcomer. Feel welcome and see a solution- that things can change is the most important thing we can do.

Scenario 2: p. 77 BB. AA comes of age. Bills intro to service. Concept 9 service leadership. GSB Concept 5- each AA group ought to be a spiritual entity with one purpose to carry message. Into Action- our real purpose is to fit ourselves to be of maximum

### **Brooke C.: 12 Concepts Presentation/Sharing Session**

Demystify the concepts. Bring conference approved literature if you have any challenges with me. Liked circle and triangle, three legacies. Recovery, unity and service. Was never ours. What is the point of the tree legacies- Are we willing to grow along spiritual lines? Service- it's the concepts. Recovery it's the steps. Steps are "number I" for me. Until I admitted powerlessness I wasn't ready for recovery. Traditions are about protecting our message, not carrying it like our 12 steps. Traditions are about "we". We are one brilliant idea away from total disaster. P. 2 SM declaration of unity. Protect our message long enough for our great- great grandchildren.

January/February 2016

All 3 legacies are handed to us when we walk in the door of AA. It is an equilateral triangle. Being willing to grow on spiritual lines. God is or is not. God is. Show up and listen to the Delegates Report- don't have to be a delegate. Need Unity sponsors before Service sponsors. Need three legacy sponsors.

Concepts- in SM. Structure of the conference. Skip concept 6 and 8 for now-. It is steps 1 and 12, traditions 2, 9, concepts 1, 2 and 5 that identify our structure. Groups are on the top. Concepts 1 and 2. About a history lesson. Alcoholic Foundations Book published in 1939, foundation renamed to GSB, alcoholic and non-alcoholics. Foundation board depended on Bill and Bob to guide them. Loaning money to drunks is not a good idea.

Opposition to the conference. Late 40's Dr. Bob is very ill. Bill decided to take responsibility and give it to the groups of AA. We are the shareholders. **Concept 1** the groups own AA- all of the responsibility and authority is ours. Concept 2 addresses a logistical problem. How do all of the groups communicate? Delegation is the principle- can make a decision on the next International Convention to the conference. What is the highest you can get in AA- sober. Trust one of our trusted servants to do something for us. Delegation is concept 2. Concept 3- talk about the right of decision. If we delegate to you we are going to let you decide how to do it. Never use right of decision not to consult with those you should, stay in the scope of what you should be doing and always report honestly what you have done. Concept 4 The right of participation and responsibility of participation. Has to do with belonging. Say you are a member and you are. YOU can show up, participate and vote. Amazing democracy- no member is above any other. Comes from the unity of the traditions and sense of belonging. Concept 5. Petition-redress of a grievance- want it fixed. If not fixed- take it to the next level for an appeal. Bad coffee is not addressed- take it to the group. Call NY, or then you pray. There is no place above the group that you can go. Final appeal is to the groups. Voice of the minority to protect against uninformed, hasty group conscience. If you believe that something's really wrong- then you have that responsibility to say so. Sponsorship is a real leadership position. Read commentary on **Concept 9**. Always going to have a problem with leadership. Great leader- rotate he/she out. There is always a newcomer watching you. Concept 10. If we are going to delegate to you, we will give you what you need to do it. Match authority and responsibility. Concept 11- get the best people for the job, most qualified help. Don't elect cuz someone has a pulse. She still has shakes and was spilling coffee – after a week she was ok as coffee maker. Concept 12 Warranties- also in resolution of 1955 and Article 12 of conference charter. Article 12 is protected. Need to send a letter to every known group- 3/4 need to agree to changing warranties or can't be changed. AA's Bill of Service Rights. 1 says conference will never be a seat of perilous wealth or power. Traditions describe this. Warranty 2 - Bill says middle path between recklessness and paralyzing fear. Warranty 3- no unqualified authority- you aren't the boss of me Warranty 4- substantial unanimity. Discussion, vote, discussion. We keep talking things out and eventually we come to an informed group conscience. Pay attention to abstentions, sometimes they could sway votes. Loving god expressed in our group conscience is not Robert's rules. Abstainers don't know or don't care. Don't call the question before we are done discussing. If we are split we are not done... Warranty 5, we don't do things that are publically controversial. We don't punish or shoot people. Who is going to play judge, jury and executioner to his own sick brother. Warranty 6 – we are going to be democratic but no acts of governments- hey groups- this is what you are going to do. District can send things up to groups. Box in GSO achieves on opposition to the conference. Purpose of conference to uphold the traditions. Trustees didn't want to worry about the traditions. Bill takes a year off to talk to the groups. Was talking about the idea of a conference. Letters started coming into GSO. Bil- Got the Trustees into the traditions because of the revolution going on with the groups. Trustees thought Bill made them up - Bill said no the traditions made themselves. 1946-12 points to assure AA's future.

tee and had been out of general service for 16 years. Every service job is on the job training. I love AA cuz it saved my life, my dads and my sons. All three would long since be dead. Dad sobered up at 70 and died with 20 years of sobriety. Principles of AA work in spite of us. That's why this fellowship is worthwhile. Dr. Bob and Bill just asked us to keep the principles and pass them on to the next generation with an enhanced content. That is what you are figuring out.

At 16 took a couple drinks and it gave me courage to face life and do what I wanted to do. Would have been a teenage suicide without alcohol. 1952 went to work in oil fields. Hard work and hard drinking fit. AA is the language of the heart. Current agenda item to translate BB in plain language. We need to put the language of the heart in plain language? Bill and Bob predicted that book would save lives- it has for 80 years. We need to change that?

Lucky to have a sponsor who taught me how to think- not what to think. Got involved in service at 9 months. Delegate learned Carl did not have a service position at 9 months. Took what came along that others did not want to do. Coffee, GSR, DCM, delegate, area chair, elected to board of AA. God needed a dummy like me and gave me an opportunity to be involved in service.

Dad wanted to visit- didn't want to, sponsor said nothing to loose- that is the language of the heart. Took dad to open AA meeting. Dad was dead silent at 60- hadn't talked in 15 years. God makes AA work in spite of us. Bill – AA being the language of the heart – I believe was provided by God to guide them in writing the BB.

#### **District 3: Getting Others Involved in AA Service**

Many say they did service, remind them that they need to stay involved. Was doing signs at 2 months. Sponsor took her to district at two months. Key is letting others see what you have.

Support other groups that are struggling, and individuals who are struggling. Hold meetings at home of struggling folks and put money in basket for them.

Sponsor people into service. Otherwise they will sit there and wait for things to happen. We need to be sponsored in. Low percentage of groups have a GSR and attend district meeting. Sponsor taught me what I have to do in AA. Sponsorship and ensure group supports their GSR.

Bring people to workshops. People say they don't have time - need to make the time for service as we did in sponsoring. Talk about the concepts at regular meetings too. Participation We are part of the heart of the spirit od AA. Bring sponsees to service functions. Personally ask people to get involved. We see a talent in you and would like you to get involved.

#### District 7: Reaching Out to the next Generation of AA's

Get Grapevines out to medical offices. Get more CPC materials out to professionals. What is said and done should not be different. Don't be too pushy with newcomers. Talk to them after the meeting. Make sure they have phone lists. Offer to take them to a meeting. First meeting is make or break- -need to be gentle. This is a journey- not a destination.

Experience with daughter in and out of recovery. Family is the next generation, family is everything. You can't make a horse drink water if he still wants beer. Leave them alone if that is what they want to do. Important to volunteer to become temporary sponsors. Don't preach. Allow newcomers to come to their own perception of a higher power. Anyone who declares they are a member is a member. This is a program of suggestion, didn't do that at first.

From As Bill Sees it. Began to have success with milder

Carl B. : Open Speaker Meeting Elected to GSB as a trus-

alcoholics. Younger people appeared. They needed to hit bottom emotionally but not every possible bottom. First duty to AA's future is to maintain in full strength what we have now.

12 Traditions Presentation/Sharing Session-Carl B. Denver, Colorado "We are jumping over the traditions to the concepts. Traditions are the foundations of the concepts. GSC inventory spent 140,000 to publish this abortion. Three years with 93 delegates, staff and trustees = 279 people worked on this. Inventory is assets and liabilities. To get to the truth about what I really was-about nothing. Figure out what I had done wrong so I could move on. Document is 30 pages and not one word on AA's traditions. Inventory left out one legacy and you tell me we are in good hands? We must get back to the priceless traditions, given to us by Bill and approved in 1955 at St. Louis- he gave us the fellowship. Also knew our propensity to fix things that are not broken. Also gave us the responsibility to protect it. Re- writing the Big Book in plain English is like changing the smile on the Mona Lisa painting. Didn't have much intelligence when he first read the BB. We will have a BB for dummies if approved at the next conference.

"If we have nothing to look forward to and nothing to look back to with pride- then we are dead, like he was when he came to AA. Told him that he would be pulled up to a level never dreamed of by AA. We use the language of the heart in AA and that is the language of the Big Book. So lets pull all the smart people down to the level of the few who don't understand the English language? I was pulled up by people not brought down. I've been learning by what you have done- not said.

Traditions were the guidelines Bill gave us to create unity. Stop having group conscience meets to get more involved in AA. Before 1946 until Bill gave traditions to fellowship in 1951- lots of fighting. Even the board thought the traditions were BS. Talked delegates into accepting them on a trial basis and if the were useful in four years-they would take them on permanently, which they did.."

We are flying blind if we are trying to discuss a problem in AA without using the traditions. Anything in AA that does not involve carrying our message is an outside issue. If you do not understand the traditions it does not work. In all group conscience meetings- traditions need to be used to solve the issues. Don't use opinions to solve problems-use our traditions. Only authority we have is a loving god as expressed in our group conscience. Fighting at group conscience meetings chases away newcomers. Group conscience needs to be informed by our traditions. If GSO/AA does not endorse any causes then we don't have anything to oppose.

Unity means we can all think differently and get along in solving our problems. If you are violating one tradition you are likely violating several. If we do not use the traditions they won't be used at the GSC. At best 30% of the delegates will be familiar with the traditions. So 70% will be using opinions to solve issuesflying blind. Groups can let autonomy ruin themselves. Use AA Comes of Age as the basis for a traditions workshop. Study the traditions so we know about issues like affiliation vs cooperation, attraction vs promotion.

Key is to use our traditions to solve problems or AA won't last more than 20-30 more years.

#### Ask it Basket

-Plain English BB? Jake: Won't be voted on in next GSC. -Home group member always bringing religion into meeting.? Brooke: Group needs to be aware of traditions. Ask member to keep religion as an affiliation outside of AA.

-Why we do 2 change forms for a new GSR-for area and GSO. Tin C.: Area is quicker than GSO.

-Recovery, unity and service. Is it necessary that recovery comes first. Tom A.: Need to go through the first 11 steps before doing service work. Its not apathy for service- unrecovered alcoholism. Traditions inform us on how to be of maximum service to God and others. Bill wrote traditions and concepts after steps.

-Does the white ballot circumvent our voting process? (?): Not if we follow things properly, and do not nominate people who will not be good leaders. Pick the right people.

-What is the importance of the spirit of rotation? Susie: If we have the same job for more than 2 years – we get to be experts.

-Non- alcoholic person attending open meetings, breaking anonymity of members. Bruce B.: Traditions broken, common welfare, unity. Get lots of members to talk with that person.

-How can we better educate members on differences between open and closed meetings.? Jake: Card describes the difference but most don't get it. Members of the group make it open or closed. Otherwise use the blue card.

-What is the power of the purse and how is it affected by literature

Income	
4500 · Service Workshop Registration	1,060.00
4550 · Service Workshop Coffee	486.26
4555 · Service Workshop Speaker Basket	0.00
Expense	
5200 · Service Workshop (speakers;facility;coffee)	1,895.5

Net Income	- \$349.33
Area 35 Officer/Chair expenses	- \$2127.96
Total Cost of Workshop	- \$2477.29

### WORKSHOP EVALUATIONS

#### Service Positions: None at Present (6)

**Most helpful parts of workshop:** Meeting the guests; General Service Presentations; General Sharing from the Floor; Saturday Night Speaker, Sunday morning speaker; workshop experience as a whole.

**Suggestions for improving workshop:** for mal introductions period to meet people; more discussion from everybody; KIS; more smoke breaks.

In what way did it help? Understanding traditions and concepts; understanding how AA works as a whole; learned how important it is to keep BB the way it is; peeked my interest in being a young AA serving in district functions; everyone I met made me feel very welcome; learned info for an informed group conscience; many good ideas researched and presented in ways we can understand.

#### Service Positions: Area 35 Officer and Chairs (6)

**Most helpful parts of workshop:** Meeting the guests; General Service Presentations; Saturday Night Speaker, Brooke's concepts presentation; workshop experience as a whole.

Suggestions for improving workshop: possibly move to a one day format; have event in the same building as the motel; encourage DCM's to audit presentations to ensure clear, precise and well researched presentations. Maybe offer a workshop on public speaking - the Alternate Delegate is qualified to offer this service.

I In what way did it help? Reminded all to get back to the basics; we are going to have a great rotation; ideas on concepts (Brooke); District 13 model presentation- inspirational; general sharing from experienced trusted servants; seeing and hearing people practicing principles of program in their lives; framing in terms of coffee maker helped me understand the concepts more fully; would like to complement the facility, although detached it was comfortable, had a reasonably priced restaurant, ATM and places to congregate outside of the meeting room.

#### Service Positions: DCMs, District Officers or Chairs (11)

Most helpful parts of workshop: Meeting the guests; General Service Presentations; Saturday Night Speaker, Sunday morning speaker; workshop experience as a whole; DCM Sharing Session.

Suggestions for improving workshop: provide clear guidelines for presentations to districts and require districts to adhere to these if they accept presentation offer; less reading- more personal experience stories; keep on having these helpful workshops; display a large map of the area so people can see where people come from; offer Skype participation this time of the year; more time for floor participation. In what way did it help? Reminded me of importance of what we do and why; helped me define my responsibilities as a DCM; start at 9 instead of 8:30 on Sunday; words of encouragement, old words in a new light, sharing ideas, awesome fellowship; concepts presentation was amazing-in a way the average member can understand; all presentations were excellent and structure was great for sharing from the floor; highlight was getting to meet and talk with Carl B., Jake did a great job answering questions in DCM Sharing Session.

revenues? Brooke: If group is not contributing to an entity- let them know why you are not contributing so they know. If GSO can manipulate literature prices-the power of the purse is gone. Conferences have not been able to limit literature price increases.

-How do we know when we are affecting other groups or AA as a whole? (?): We affect AA no matter what we do. We might be the only copy of the BB someone ever sees. Groups that do not survive do not follow the traditions.

-Opinion on marriage within the fellowship? Susie A.:Outside issue. Mine has been good for 25 years. **WORKSHOP FINANCIALS** 

#### Service Positions: GSR or Alternate GSR (7)

**Most helpful parts of workshop:** Meeting the guests; General Service Presentations; Saturday Night Speaker, Sunday morning speaker; workshop experience as a whole; GSR Sharing Session, Brooke C.

**Suggestions for improving workshop**: Shorter lunch/dinner times; place agenda on Area35.org; more beverage availability in conferee.

AITKIN MN

Area 35 December Area Committee Meeting Aitkin, MN December, 2015 Minutes

Call to Order and Open with the Serenity Prayer- Sarah

K.

Motion to Approve Aug. 2015 ACM Minutes- Servando M. Motion Passed

Recognize Past Delegates in attendance: Brue B. Panel 44; Tom A. Panel 50;Sussie A. Panel 48; Guest Denny B. Panel 41 Area 36.

#### **OFFICER REPORTS**

**Delegate-** Michael J. Many greetings to my friends and family in AA. I hope that blessings fill your life rather than the pains of loneliness that so many are going thru. As an AA member and one who has experienced much joy and pain I know that without sobriety I would be suffering without love. God has truly blessed me with much and with the opportunity to serve Area 35. I have been busy with family stuff and holiday stuff that comes as a result of being sober.

Our region had a conference call with about 20 participating including western Canada and our trustee plus a couple others. We discussed things like when the inventory booklets will arrive...should be soon. There was a request from Adult Children of Alcoholics to attend our conference which was refused. The corrections correspondent from GSO is still looking for input from area corrections people as to if there is interest in holding a national corrections workshop, much like the web tech does. One of the items being approached at the conference is a plain language version of our big book. Apparently it is off a first nations idea. I am not in favor of this and would hope it will be closely followed by Kelly and Lisa from Area 36. We discussed the loss of revenue from the international and it is an up or down deal, sometimes we make much and sometimes we lose some. We also discussed the upcoming WCRAASC and need to get our new committee chairs and officers in so we can have an updated directory. Along with any updates on past delegates and trustees.

I have sent in our new delegate and alt delegate info to GSO along with the area officers. I will be sending Tom A's resume for Trustee in. Thank you Tom. I will be getting cut off soon from information that the delegate receives and am looking forward in serving area 35 as a member of AA that is interested in keeping us healthy and happy. I want to wish all of the newly elected and selected servants of area 35 the very best. Merry Christmas and God bless. May God bless you and keep you. Michael (Jake)

#### Alternate Delegate -Kelly D. Greetings Area 35,

It is hard to believe that I am giving my last report as your Alternate Delegate, I cannot believe how time flies by. Many of you attended our Fall Assembly in October and one of our discussions (and a vote was also taken) to discontinue our Zonal Forums in Area 35 unless the Districts would like to have one. We had our last one of this rotation in Zone 4 on November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Duluth Alano Club. I would like to thank everyone that came out that Saturday along with Rillis and District 12 for hosting the event. We had what I thought was good attendance, a great potluck lunch and a good discussion after our presentations. I personally have enjoyed the time and fellowship that we Area Officers have spent with all the Districts the last two years at all 4 of our Zonal Forums. I hope that there are Districts that would like to invite the Area Officers to come in the next rotation. On November 21<sup>st</sup> I attended the Area 35/36 Workshop in Clearwater, MN. It is always great to get together with southern Minnesota every year and discuss and share information on the service we do in our great state. It was good to see a turnout from both Areas.

I want to remind you that the deadline to reserve your hotel room at the Hampton Inn and Suites in St. Cloud for the Area 35 Service Workshop January 16-17, 2016 is December 15th. If by chance you need to cancel a registration you must do it 24 hours before or will be charged for the room. Also another reminder is that there is a \$10.00 registration fee for the Service Workshop in order to keep it self-supporting. All final arrangements are complete and as you know Roger, our incoming Alternate Delegate will be chairing that event. I have to say that I truly enjoyed putting the two Service Workshops together as part of my duties. I would like to thank all the Districts that were willing to present along with our guests that traveled to be with us and I hope to see you all there in January. I have also been busy organizing the tote and copying files to a CD to pass on to Roger today. I received an email from Andrew W. our WCR Trustee and was invited to join the phone conference meeting of the Delegates from the West Central and Western Canada Region on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was great to be asked to be a part of it and it gave me and idea of the meetings I will be a part of quarterly after each General Service Board meeting along with some of the topics that will be discussed. Obviously there will be more information on those meetings to follow. I have to say also that I am overwhelmed by the welcoming of love and support from all the Delegates rotating out or serving next year. Thank you to each and every one of them for their kind words and encouragement! I travel out to Arlington, South Dakota on Friday with Tom, Susie and Carl B. our guest for our Service Workshop to their "Concepts in the West" Workshop. We returned late last night so I am just a bit tired but so well worth the trip there. This Workshop focus on our first 3 Concepts. I was asked to moderate the breakout sessions on Concepts 1 and 2. It was an amazing time of sharing and fellowship.

I also want to remind the DCM's that you need to let me know if you want a cd or a hard copy of the upcoming Agenda Items that will be out in February. Finally as another year comes to an end and we are into the holiday season, for me it is time to reflect and look back on the blessings I have received throughout this last year. I know that if it was not for God, this fellowship and all of you I would not even take the time to consider that such things are possible alone be grateful for them. And as we come to an end of another two year rotation of service here in Area 35, I would like to thank all of you that served and gave in some way to continue to carrying our message of hope to the still suffering alcoholic. I look forward to seeing many of you in the upcoming 2016-2017 rotation. I am truly honored and humbled that I will be serving as your Panel 66 Delegate. Have a blessed holiday season and thank you for the opportunity I have been given to serve. Kelly D., Alternate Delegate

Chair-Sarah K. Greetings all. As I complete my responsibilities as area chair, I look forward to passing the responsibilities and bins on to Jim! In preparation for the next rotation, I put together a few packets of information for each incoming area committee chair. The first is the updated guidelines for each position, and the second is a packet to use in budgeting for 2016. I would remind all outgoing, and incoming, committee chair people that the very first of their responsibilities is to fill out a budget according to the updated guidelines and the Area's Statement of Financial responsibility. The packet contains a blank budget sheet, a document listing the 2014 actual expenses (2015 actual expenses can be found on the period 6 reports in the back of the room), and a cover sheet that includes the location of all upcoming events, cost of hotel rooms, and expected gas prices for 2016 so budgets can be framed as close to what you realistically expect to spend in the course of serving the Area. The budget is our Area's way of demonstrating and evaluating the services you provide to the area. As such, we want to go beyond attending the meetings and provide those useful and needed services the fellowship desires, so take some time to think about the current state of the Area and where your committee might be able to meet some unique needs. It will help to have a talk with the outgoing chair to get their perspective on how things went, what additional services were provided, and what needs remain. You might also look at the board minutes and Box 459 to see what your committee is discussing.

One of the final two events of my rotation was the Zonal Forum held in Duluth. I shared a little about what people coming to area events can expect, how we operate, and parliamentary procedures. There was wonderful discussion including great questions about the financial relationship between AA and Alano Societies, and the cost of the Area's Financial Oversight Committee from some very curious, interested people.

The last event I attended was the Joint Area 35/36 Workshop. We had good discussions and feedback was positive. One interesting idea shared was that some committees should be working together to assist each other. For example, Literature and PI might connect with Treatment or Corrections to share ideas of useful literature or put on joint workshops. For those coming in to the rotation, you might also ask the outgoing chair for their Southern MN counterpart's contact information so that you can get connected.

Another interesting thing I learned at the Joint Workshop was how differently we prepare the budgets. Whereas our Area basically enters the expenses as submitted by the chairs and adjusts the income category to cover the expenses, thus always putting out a "balanced" budget, Southern MN's Area Chair is responsible for reducing the expenses as deemed appropriate and bases the income category on the previous year's actual income (+ 3%), which may result in an unbalanced, or deficit budget. Very interesting stuff!

The last two years have been something and I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to assist Area 35 in doing its service work, for the wonderful, hard working people I got to serve with, and for the challenges that allowed me the opportunity to grow. Best wishes to all. Sarah K.

**Secretary-Roger R.** Greetings Area 35. My recent activities include the following. Completing meeting minutes from the Fall Assembly (in current NL), and August Area Committee Meeting. Presenting at the November 14 Zonal Forum in Duluth MN. Compiling minutes from the Area 35/36 joint workshop with Area 36 Secretary and working on updating the Area 35 Actions Book. I was also humbled to be asked to proctor the District 13 Officer and Chair Election in November.

At one time I was thinking my activities might sow down at the close of this rotation. But that does not seem to be the case. As I become ready to serve as your Alternate Delegate and am preparing for the January Workshop I gain a sense of things to come. I would like to thank Kelly D. for her briefing on my new position and setting up all details for the January Workshop. In Chairing this workshop I am available to presenting districts and look forward to you presenting from your experiences, hearts and our AA literature. Please either leave me your report today or send it to me by December 13. As this is my last report as your Secretary I would like to thank you all for allowing me to serve Area 35 for the past tow years. In loving service, Roger.

#### Treasurer-Randy A. On Saturday November 14th we traveled to

Duluth for the last Zonal Forum of the rotation and perhaps the last one requested from the districts. It was well presented by the Area Officers and there was also plenty of participation with some very good questions and answers. The Zonal Forums will be greatly missed, especially the ones that were well attended. I was unable to make the Area Joint Workshop due to work schedule and had the new incoming Treasurer Christine G. take my place. Hopefully there were some good exchange of ideas and communication.

This will be my very last report for the Area Committee as your Area 35 Treasurer. I sincerely enjoyed the experience as being a trusted servant of the Area, despite the difficulties of the job at times. Overall, the main thing is we kept good track of all the incoming and outgoing finances and kept the books well balanced. Our total assets for the month ending in November were: \$ 26,311.14 with 17,973.29 in checking and \$ 6,041.15 total in our savings. Total Group contributions for period 6 were: \$4,626.89 and total for the year so far from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> thru Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> are: \$ 25,258.86 The Group Contributions were down somewhat and we did ok with all the service activities. We have safeguards in place to insure that we never lose track of our finances and financial obligations. My hats off to all the Area Officers and all the Area Committee Chairs and the Financial Oversight Committee for their commitment to maintain the integrity and safeguard of all of our Area Finances. It has been a very spiritual and wonderful journey in service, as I got to meet many humble and inspiring people. In closing, we will keep the same banking account with Wells Fargo Bank. And the transition should be smooth and easy. All we need is our signatures and they will due the faxing for the incoming and outgoing signees on the accounts. Good luck to our new incoming Area 35 Treasurer Christine G. as I know she will do an outstanding job. Yours in Service Randy A.

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS

**GRAPEVINE-ANTONETTEE F.** I can't believe the rotation is over. Time flies when you are having fun! We had about 11 in attendance this morning. Some new faces along with the rest of us. We have much activities going on and excitement continues to grow as we make our transitions. I will miss each and every one of you and I want to thank you for making service fun and important to me. Keep on trudging...Antonette

**District 8- Jerry B.** Hi, I'm Jerry outgoing DCM for Dist. 8. I'm also an alcoholic. All's well up No. within our dist. Dist. 8 holds it's bus. mtgs. the first full week of the mo. on a rotating basis as to mtg. location & which day of the week. Comm. mtgs. are @ 6:30 with the bus. mtg. beg. @ 7:00. Our next Dist. 8 mtg. will be held @ the U.C.C. 501 Main St. in Biwabik. As always you"re all invited to attend & share some fellowship with us. I att. the Fall Assm. last Oct. Butch R. & myself took part in a mtg. held @ Sandstone FP, a relative newcomer to the prog., Tony & I att. the Zone 4 Forum held in Duluth Nov. 4th. Butch & I also att. the joint Area 35/36 workshop held @ Warner Lake last mo. Our corr. chr., Butch R., also att. the statewide corr. mtg. this past mo. As my rot. as DCM for Dist. 8 comes to a close I'm reminded of the AA Resp. Dec., whereas I'm willing to reach my hand out to the still suffering alcoholic & anyone else for that matter, who may be seeking help. I'll be around for the next 24 hrs., I pray that we'll all be here for each other ! Thanks for being here for me. In service, Jerry B.

District 15- Melissa A. We have our District meeting the first Monday of every month that is located at the Albany Senior Center at 8pm. We hope that everyone has been well since the Fall Assembly and had an amazing Thanksgiving with family and friends. Since the Fall Assembly our District has had quite of few changes. We have filled several positions for the next two years, which I am extremely excited about and thankful for: our Secretary Chair has been filled by Irene out of Holdingford, our Treasurer Chair has been filled by Greg out of Lake Henry, our Literature Chair has been filled by Christine out of Melrose, I am going to continue as the DCM and Pat M. is going to continue being the Treatment Chair. I want to thank all of the people that I have mentioned for having the willingness to serve District 15. I attended the Area 35 & Area 36 Corrections event, which I learned a lot from and I am happy that I attended; there was great speakers and amazing food! I had the privilege of being asked to speak at Recovery Plus in St. Cloud and share my story. I also was asked to teach for 2 hours on what the 12 steps entail and answer questions that the patients had. This was something I had never done before but it seemed to have been beneficial, a lot of the patients afterwards had expressed how because of my sharing they are not as scared to ask for a sponsor and start working the steps. I also had the privilege of speaking at a meeting in Glenco, which is located in Area 36. Apparently I was being recorded by the Gopher State Library and CD's are for sale for \$8. I am getting one sent to me for free so I will let you guys know if they are worth buying. Ha-ha. I am in the process of updating our meeting cards so that they can be done by January. Our Treatment Chair Pat has been working with District 4 and District 13 so we can be of service to them in their districts treatment facilities. I look forward to attending the January workshop. I want to thank everyone that has been of service the past two years in Area 35. It has been an honor learning from all of you and I look forward to see what the future holds for our Area. I also want to thank those who are going to be serving the Area the next two years. I look forward to working with all of you! Thank you for allowing me to be of service, I hope you all have an amazing Christmas! Melissa A.

an institutions committee that will work much like an intergroup to coordinate service commitments in the area.

Personally, I had an opportunity to attend the joint 35/36 workshop in November and thoroughly enjoyed our conversation. We came up with some good ideas to facilitate the coordination of services throughout the state. Look for the minutes of that meeting to be published in the Northern Light.

Over the past eight years I have been through of personal changes in jobs and homes and home groups. As a matter of fact I believe this is the first time I have been able to see a service commitment through for the entire two year period. Through all the changes the Area 35 service structure has been my consistent commitment and connection to AA service. I will not have a position during the upcoming rotation that will require my attendance at Area 35 events. I will be focusing my efforts on my new home and job and spend time with my new home group.

I want to thank you all for allowing me to serve. Jeff C

#### District 5- Jon S. No report

District 4- Bonnie Season's Greetings from District 4, Our district meetings are held every third Saturday of the month prior to a Round Robin meeting. The location rotates throughout the district. We have yet to fill all committee positions. Out of our 30 groups in our district there have been less than 10 that participate in our district meetings. In our attempt to attract more participation we continue to be optimistic and enthusiastic about our own participation on the district level. The district hosted a Sponsorship Workshop on November 21st to encourage sponsorship and service sponsorship. We had about 22 participants. The format we used was going through the A.A. Sponsorship Pamphlet in breakout sessions and a panel of experienced men and women sponsors to answer questions afterward. The feedback was good and we were happy with the overall turnout. Another item we plan to do to attract service work on the district level, is to start scheduled visits to the A.A. meetings in our district, in January. Our purpose is multi layered first to introduce ourselves, give out our contact information, verify the meeting information as laid out on the aameetinglocator.com, to communicate the importance of the group having a GSR or getting the updated GSR contact information, and that the communication between the A.A. meetings and district is imperative to keeping A.A. alive for generations to come. In Service, Bonnie M. Alternate DCM – District 4.

**Corrections Jake C.** It has been an interesting year to serve you as Corrections Chair. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I have had no requests by the districts to attend any of their meetings or assist in anyway since the Fall Assembly. I will be attending the upcoming Joint Committee for Corrections meeting this coming Tuesday in Osseo. I have invited the incoming Corrections Chair to attend with me. We had a good group at the Area 36/36 workshop with 5 in attendance, one actually stopping by on his way home from taking a meeting into a facility. Most of what we discussed related to our Joint Committee for Corrections between Area 35/36, mainly educating those in attendance what the joint committee does. Yours in Service Jacob C.

**District 2 Myron H.** My name is Myron and I am an alcoholic. I am the DCM for District 2 ,in the northwest corner of the state. District 2 would like to say thank you to all the outgoing officers who have served the last two years.

Our November meeting was well attended which was a pleasant surprise as it was opening weekend for deer hunting. There was some question as to the validity of our September election due to the poor attendance. I didn't have a good answer except to say we can only operate with the people who show up. We advertise the elections many times and go forward with the people in attendance.

We now have a DCM, an alternate DCM, a secretary, a treasurer, a corrections chair, and two others interested in other committees. So we are making progress.

We also discussed updating group records, assembling information packets for newcomers and displays at local events, and getting involved in an AA event within our district boundaries. The event is called "Camperama", and is held at Lake Bronson State Park on Memorial weekend. I attended a joint area 35/36 workshop in Clearwater with 40+ others. I participated in the Newsletter/Web/Group Records breakout session. I learned about FNV database (Fellowship New Vision), area group records and the importance to the newcomer to have current information in our records. We also discussed the newsletter cost and distribution system. I learned a lot about the webmaster's job and the group record's job. Thank you to the people who organized the workshop. Finally, the flyer regarding the Area 35 Spring Assembly in Crookston created some excitement in our district as the longest drive for any of our GSRs will be only 3 hour. Yours in service, Myron H.

**PI-Jeff C.** There were six districts represented at our meeting. There was a mix of outgoing and incoming servants in the group. General topics of discussion included transitioning responsibilities to the new trusted servants, the traditions and the spirit of anonymity. District 12 reported that they are working with MNYPAA in Duluth to get AA information into the local schools. District 3 reported that Fargo/Moorhead AA groups are creating

#### District 9- Fred H.

Archives –Pete B. In attendance this morning: District 13, 8and 21.

District 13 reported organizing archives materials. District 8 reported recording old-times. District 21 reported recording district meeting minutes and recording 2 old-timers. District 9 is putting on a GSR school on December 17. I attended the Joint workshop of Area 35/36. I shared my stroyat Sleepy Hollow last Monday. I am stil amazed at how many members do not know our history. Many of my home frojp members do not know what the Oxford Group was. Thank you for allowing me to serve, Pete B.

**District 12-Richard G.** My name is Richard and I am currently serving as DCM for District 12. I would like to thank area officers for putting on the November Zonal Forum in Duluth, MN. I appreciated the opportunity for communication between our district members and area officers.

I am excited on how District 12 is growing in enthusiasm and opportunities for carrying the message. Al service positions are filled and more GSR's have been elected. Latest advance is from MINIPAA- our PI-CPC Chair was contacted and they want to start carrying our message into high schools. Yours in service, Richard.

**Archivist-Brad I.** Since the Fall Assembly I had the display at the Saint Cloud Round-Up and was very well received. I had a major adventure packing up but I will get to that at the end of my report. I helped out Area 36 Archivist Paul Heinke at the Founders Day event and had some great conversations will attendees. Other then that I continued to look for work.

I am looking forward to serving with the upcoming rotation. I think it may be time to start looking at a new Archivist. I am not getting any younger. I still am passionate and still enjoy being of service and carrying the message with the Archives. I do not have a sunset date in mind but if anyone has an interest and an aptitude hit me up.

Please all incoming DCM's make sure I am on your mailing list for District Minutes and Event flyers. It has been a great rotation with this committee and please keep coming around and share your experience.

Brad

**TREATMENT-PAUL M.** Greetings from Area 35 treatment facilities chair! Been honor and a privilege to serve area 35 past two years, had for districts represented at our last meeting of the rotation, District 12, three, 21, and eight were present today, District 8 Sara is the new incoming treatment facilities chair she reports all meetings are going well the second and fourth Sunday welcome Sara! District 3 Gene is the new treatment facilities chair for the next rotation welcome Gene he is updating information and delivering meetings schedules to treatment facilities in his district. District 12 reports all is going well with over 100+ present at the speaker meeting at Bethel on Saturday nights District 21 reports all going well. The treatment chair is rotating into the DCM position I did not attend the area 3536 joint workshop in St. Cloud I asked Gayle from St Cloud to sit in on the workshop for me however area 36 treatment chair did attend either so there was no meeting with treatment, had a great discussion on how to drum up people interested in service work and discussed area 35 and 36 temporary contact programs, I've had a number of temporary contact requests and have found contacts for them. I attended area zonal form in Duluth and it was very helpful and informative. I would like to thank all treatment chairs and DCMs for the last two years of service. We've been a great Committee and seem to have worked together well. Thank you for letting me serve, Paul M.

**District 21- Irv R.** District 21 had elections in November and filled al of our officer positions. Only 1 or 2 of our action chair positions have been filled. On the positive side our past Treatment Chair is now DCM and he has extensive connections on the professional side. Our treasury is robust and incoming chairs will have sufficient funds to work with. My best to all of the new officers and chairs. Irv.

**District 6- Garret B.** My name is Garret and I am an alcoholic DCM from District 6.

I want to thank District 6 for the opportunity to serve. I was blessed with all positions filled and people willing to step-up. Our jail and treatment commitments were always met. We had great GSR participation as well. All of our positions for the next rotation are also filled. Renell P. wil be or new DCM and Rick H. will be Alt. DCM. Our treasury has been switched and cards sent out to the groups.

We will be discussing the idea of a rotating district meeting . Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Garrett

**Group Records- Rolene L.** Hello Area 35. This is my last report as Group Records Secretary. I am sad for this working coming to an end. But due to my health issues I know it is best. I will be turning everything over to the new Group Records Chair. I encourage then to get it all into the FNV database for our districts. I want to thank all the DCMs who worked hard in the past rotation to get their meetings updated, especially Carl P. in District 7 and Rillis in District 12 as they have many meetings in their districts. made mention that a "mistake was made by accepting a nominations from a non-voting member". It raised the question as to where the "rules" could be found. I provided my explanation and the response I received was attacking and threatening. I understand that this is a personal issue because the email was directed at me but what I would like to share is that, I learned that I need to be more thorough in my research BEFORE announcing that a MISTAKE was made. Each district can run their voting how they would like. I learned that this needs to be clarified before the voting starts and it also needs to be clarified who can wake nominations.

I also learned, that when an email is received, even if there is not any response OR action requested, I should respond with something to let the sender know that the email was acknowledged. Otherwise, it may be portrayed as ignoring and running from the situation. Randy asked me if I would attend the Officer's breakout session at the Area 35/36 Joint Workshop and I did so as requested. We had some great discussion and I look forward to connecting with my Area 36 counterpart next rotation.

All our outgoing chairs are meeting with the incoming chairs to pass off their information.

We have printed our updated annual meeting schedules and they are in the process of being distributed to different facilities. It has been a rotation of learning, growing, ups and downs in my position. In Service, Christine G.

**District 11-Gary H.** Due to oversleeping this morning our new DCM will be giving my report. All of our obligations are being met. Your in service, Gary.

**NORTHERN LIGHT –Rodney S.** Four people attended the meeting this morning. Mostly we discussed the rotation switches for Group Records and Webmaster, as these two positions will be filled by members of the same committee.

We did discuss a question brought up at the Area 35/36 joint workshop: how much does one issue of the Northern Light cost, printing and mailing? This is something that the Northern Light editor should be able to answer, along with the total number of copies printed each time.

Most of the rest of the breakout committee meeting at the joint workshop was spent on group records maintenance and its relationship to aameetinglocator.

I was up late, actually in the early am, but since this is the last Area Committee Meeting for this rotation, I have committed to avoid dozing at any time That Jake is at the mic. (inside joke) I have really enjoyed this position and have grown in many ways because of it. Thanks for allowing me this opportunity, Rodney.

#### District 14 - Paul E.

**Literature-Jim S.** We had 6 districts represented at our meeting this morning, district 1,3,8,11,13 and 15. This morning we discussed ow to better get the message out to groups about ordering literature. Putting a fillable PDF form of the order guide on district websites, perhaps the Area website as well, DCM's emailing GSR's, adding a flyer to the district minutes about ordering times.

I had two literature orders I missed for today's meeting and I apologize for those oversights. One order I missed was through email, if you send me an order through email and you do not get a reply within 24 hours please call me at 701 306 9101 as I have most likely missed it.

I do have some books here for sale today. I do have a list of anything you may want for the Annual Service Workshop on the back table. I realized that my email notification prior to the deadline for ordering isn't giving DCM's enough time to get in contact with GSR's or district lit chair's. So I will now be sending them out earlier to give more time for DCM's, GSR's and groups to get their orders in. In service Jim S.

**District 3-Steve D.** Good afternoon and greetings from District Three. My name is Steve and I am an alcoholic. DCM for District 3.

District 3 continues to hold monthly district meetings the third Sunday of the month at the Detroit Lakes 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.

I attended the Zonal Forum in Duluth with our Alternate Delegate Kelly. Our area officers did a great job in explaining their responsibilities and great discussions and questions took place.

I have a folder of change forms for GSR's and DCM's started for incoming group records secretary. This information also goes to area web-master and delegate.

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. We have had approximately 30 people attending our meetings. Our next meeting is tomorrow night.

Our district had elections for officers and committee chairs and I am happy to announce that all positions have been filled. Thank you to Roger for being the proxy for our elections. Our incoming DCM for Dist 13 will be Al. He will do a great job and be a great leader.

We had a situation where a non-voting member made a nomination and it wasn't caught until after the meeting. In the next month's meeting, I We continue to fill District Chair and Officer positions. We have a secretary position and a Corrections Chair. Enthusiasm for the District is good. Our district meetings are efficient and effective. Our Round Robins are active.

Our new officers and chairs will begin their service in January. I am humbled to have had the opportunity to be a part of District 3. Even though I will be rotating out as DCM, I will support and promote our district. The challenge is always to be an Elder Statesmen rather than a bleeding deacon Yours in Service, Steve D.

**District 1 –Jon S.** We met October 13, 2015, at 2:00 pm at the Fertile Community Center, with 7 in attendance. Our Treasurer did not attend, but relayed our balance at \$550, plus contributions of \$191. Crookston's UMC hosted recovery month, and I got to meet Daryll Strawberry, and a picture with Miss USA! Treatment report was that Riverview Recovery has outpatient in town, but is apparently referring some outpatient service work to Northwest Mental Health Center (NWMHC), also in Crookston. Douglas Place in East Grand Forks, MN has inpatient/outpatient/detox availability (as does Pine Manor in Nevis, MN outside District 1). The

#### (Continued from page 13)

Wild Rice (Summer) Round-Up had excellent attendance and went well, near Fosston, with about 80 people. We have flyers for the 14th Annual Wild Rice Round-Up January 8, 9 & 10, 2016 at the Shooting Star Hotel & Event Center, and well over 300 are expected to attend, as always, with top speakers from around the continent. We appointed Leslie H., here today, chair for the 33rd Annual Spring Fling in Fertile, MN, at the Community Center, scheduled for March 12th, 2016, for AA and Al-Anon, with about 80 usually in attendance. District 1 has 11 active groups ranging from 2 to 18 in attendance. Next AA District 1 Meeting is Sunday, December 13, 2015, at the Fertile Community Center at 2:00 pm., including elections, and Leslie H. is nominated as our next DCM.

#### Webmaster-Bob B.

I did attend the Joint area35/area36 joint workshop. We discussed our current aa MeetingLocator web site and current website practices. We did not set joint plans/goals for the upcoming rotations. The security software on our 4 laptops has expired. I purchased 4 licenses of Norton Security for the current year. \$12.00.

The Webmaster's laptop has been updated to windows 10, Filezilla, Norton Security, Vim, and a current copy of our web site area35.org and aaMinnesota.org.

#### In the Beginning There where Web Masters

HTML Hyper text Markup language.

**CGI-BIN** Server side software or software designed to run on the server like Perl.

**CCS** Cascading Style Sheets

**PHP** Open source, server side, HTML embedded scripting language used to create dynamic web pages

*JQuery Mobile* is a HTML5 based user interface system designed to make responsive web sites and apps that are accessible in the vast majority of smartphone

#### Web Master Dies

Welcome Web Content Managers

Web builder Tool offered by Web site hosts. Responsive, Content years: July 2012-48 Attended, July 2013-71, Nov. 2014-57) management web site builder

**Dreamweaver -** Expensive, Huge learning curve. Build responsive content management web site.

Weebly – Responsive, Content management Web host

Wix - Responsive, Content management Web host

**Wordpress** - Free, Widely used, Responsive, Content Management Web design.

**Drupal** - Top of the line, professional, Responsive, Content Management Web design. Huge learning curve. Open source

We need to move to a Responsive, Content Management web design. This should make it easier to find members that are willing to manage web sites without the overhead of learning Webmaster tools. Wordpress would be an excellent platform for our web sites.

**CPC-Servando M.** I attended the joint workshop and was able to make contacts and exchange information with several members from Area 36. There was a lot of discussion on how we can work together and better carry our message to the still suffering alcoholic. I look forward to seeing this type of service grow. I also attended the Zone 4 Zonal Forum and was grateful for such an awesome exchange of information.

This mornings break-out session was attended by six districts. We had a great discussion about carrying the message and the best ways to work with and be helpful to still suffering alcoholics and those who come into contact with them. Thank you for allowing me to be of service. Servando M.

**District 16-Mike F.** We had 7 in attendance at our last district meeting. Weekly jail meetings are held on Thursday evenings and our lead by Mike F. Monthly treatment informational and speaker meetings fulfilled at three treatment facilities. A GSR workshop was held on Oct. 17- lead by Dan H and 16 people attended.

**District 7-Carl P.** Greetings to all. We had our elections for the district in October. We have several positions left to fill. We need several people from the district to step up to serve their district. From my own experience as DCM, it has been a very rewarding time.

shop in St. Cloud. See you there. Yours in service, Carl P.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### -Financial Oversight Committee Report-Steve L.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 35 for past 2 years. Questions-How much does NL cost? 600 copies @ 75 cents each to mail and print. One small error in ledger for archives rent. All reports by treasurer are true and accurate.

-Statewide Corrections Committee Report- Jake C. Put on a workshop attended by 40 people. Planned on 100. Had three great speakers. Corrections Chair from Wyoming spoke. Had a MN DOC Official speak on sex offender program. Next meeting in Osseo.

-National Web Conference Report Bob B. Last October. Report is in current N.L. No common feel and look of all AA websites. Also concern that Area 35 website is all on service- not designed for the new member. See AA MPLS for a new member oriented website. New members are not asking questions on phones as much as going to websites where it is work to answer their questions.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Approval of Incoming 2016-17 Area Action Chairs Jim S. Corrections -Servando M. PI Mark N. Archivist Brad I. Archives Steve D. Literature Skip D. Grapevine-Paul M. CPC Jim T. Webmaster-Rodney S. Group Records-Bob B. Treatment- Gayle R. Northern Light-Jake C. FOC Past Delegate Jim K., Neil F. Plus rotating DCM's for each meeting.

Motion to Approve incoming chairs Jeff C. Melissa 2nd, Passed by unanimous vote.

#### -Drawing of DCM's to serve on Area Actions Committees:

CPC 1, 21. GV 16, 3. Lit. 11, 7. Archives 8, 4,. Group Records 6, 14. PI 9, 5. Treatment 18, 12. Correction 2, 13, 15,

-Budget deadline for incoming officers and Chairs. – Jim S. Due on or before January Workshop on January 16, 2016.

-Joint Workshop Evaluations- Sarah K. 45 Attendees. (Previous years: July 2012-48 Attended, July 2013-71, Nov. 2014-57)

#### Comments follow.

**Most beneficial:** Most surveyed found the breakout sessions productive and informative, and the reports afterward were interesting. Many said the appreciated learning how other areas do things differently, including how the budget process differs, and learning how committees can efficiently cooperate with each other. For example, PI is focusing on reaching out to high schools with Grapevine and corrections suggesting and providing relevant pamphlets. A few specific comments: I always appreciate getting together with area 35 statewide communication speaks to the WE. I came up with a proposal for the district. Wish I could have hopped between sessions. Appreciated learning how the budgets are prepared.

**Suggestions:** Provide a phone number of a member present for directions the day of the event. Each area could submit a few topics ahead of the workshop to be discussed. If affordable a more comfortable place would be nice. Need to attract more trusted servants at least two committees were not present at all. Location was great geographically but hard to hear in the room. Request agenda items ahead of time. Focus on topics that concerned the interaction cooperation of the two areas. As this is a significant commitment of time and expense we should use the time to best effectiveness for both areas.

**Comments**: Thanks for the treats. I like the November time slot better than the July time slot for this. Decide date sooner and publicize it so more attend.

#### -Fall Assembly Evaluations Sarah K

(Please see actual minutes for chart breakdown. Cannot fit into this edition due to space.-NL editor)

-Training Incoming Webmaster-Bob B. Motion passed for incoming webmaster to take two courses online on web software not to exceed \$300. -Area 35 Agenda Item- Sarah K. Ad hoc committee recommends following wording. "That GSO develops and maintains a national online meeting locator "

We are having a GSR school 12-17-2015 at our regular meeting place and time; pot luck an hour earlier at 6 pm. A former delegate will be there to share his service experience. Our district will be presenting at the winter work-

-Calendar of Events- Rodney S. See current Northern Light

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### AREA 35 PROPOSED BUDGET 2016

## Delegate:

	Service Wrkshop	0	WCRAASC	Assy.	June Mtg.	Aug. Mtg.	35/36 Wrkshp		Dec. Mtg.	Zone Forum	Zone Forum	Visiting Districts	General Service	Total
	Budget	Budget		Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Zone 1	Zone 3	Workshops	Conf	Budget
Meals	40.00	6.00	70.00	40.00	6.00	6.00		40.00	6.00	10.00		40.00	60.00	\$ 324.00
Travel	15.00	20.00	80.00	55.00	20.00	20.00	15.00	25.00	20.00	55.00	10.00	300.00	400.00	\$ 1,035.00
Lodging	115.00		180.00	100.00				100.00		100.00		300.00	1,600.00	\$ 2,495.00
Phone														\$ -
Supplies														\$ -
Printing	10.00	500.00		300.00								100.00	300.00	\$ 1,210.00
Postage														\$ -
Other	10.00		15.00											\$ 25.00
Budgeted	190.00	526.00	345.00	495.00	26.00	26.00		165.00	26.00	165.00	10.00	740.00	2,360.00	5,089.00

## Alt. Delegate:

	Service Wrkshop	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	Reg. Conf.	Spring Assy.	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	35/36 Wrkshp	Reg. <i>Forum</i>	Fall <i>Assy.</i>	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i>	Zone <i>Forum</i>	Zone <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel</i>	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	60.00	6.00	150.00	80.00	6.00	6.00			80.00	6.00	15.00	15.00	30.00	\$ 454.00
Travel	60.00	20.00	90.00	60.00	20.00	20.00	10.00		20.00	20.00	60.00	60.00	200.00	\$ 640.00
Lodging			180.00	134.00					150.00					\$ 464.00
Phone														\$ -
Supplies														\$ -
Printing	33.00									25.00	30.00	30.00		\$ 118.00
Postage														\$ -
Other	10.00		15.00											\$ 25.00
Budgeted	163.00	26.00	435.00	274.00	26.00	26.00	10.00	-	250.00	<b>51.00</b>	105.00	105.00	230.00	1,701.00

## Secretary:

	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Aug.	35/36	Dist	Fall	Dec.	Zonal	Zonal	
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	Wrkshp	Travel	Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Forum	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	60.00	6.00	90.00	60.00	6.00	6.00		30.00	60.00	6.00	30.00	30.00	\$ 384.00
Travel	15.00	10.00	45.00	25.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	100.00	25.00	15.00	30.00	40.00	\$ 350.00
Lodging	100.00		150.00	100.00					100.00				\$ 450.00
Phone													
Supplies													
Printing	525.00	25.00		25.00	25.00	25.00			25.00	25.00	30.00	30.00	\$ 735.00
Postage													
Other	61.00		15.00										\$ 76.00
Budgeted	761.00	41.00	300.00	210.00	46.00	46.00	15.00	130.00	210.00	46.00	90.00	100.00	1,995.00

### Treasurer:

	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Aug.	35/36	Dist	Fall	Dec.	Zonal	Zonal	
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	Wrkshp	Travel	Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Forum	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	15.00	6.00	40.00	25.00	6.00	6.00		30.00	25.00	6.00	10.00	10.00	\$ 179.00
Travel	-	5.00	50.00	25.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	200.00	10.00	5.00	20.00	10.00	\$ 340.00
Lodging	-		125.00	110.00					55.00				\$ 290.00
Phone	-												\$ -
Supplies	300.00			10.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	10.00	10.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	\$ 360.00
Printing	72.00	165.00		215.00	165.00	237.00			215.00	165.00			\$ 1,234.00
Postage	294.00			49.00		98.00			49.00				\$ 490.00
Other	10.00		15.00										\$ 25.00
Budgeted	691.00	176.00	230.00	434.00	181.00	351.00	10.00	240.00	364.00	181.00	35.00	25.00	2,918.00

### Area Chair:

	Service		WC Reg.		June	Aug.	35/36	Reg.	Fall	Dec.	Zonal	Zonal	Dist	
	Wrkshop	•	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.		Wrkshp		Assy.	Mtg.		Forum 3		Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	50.00	6.00	60.00	50.00	6.00	6.00			50.00	6.00				\$ 234.00
Travel	39.43	38.00	44.15	19.35	38.00	38.00	45.00		39.43	38.00	35.00	55.00	400.00	\$ 829.36
Lodging	109.00		200.00	200.00					200.00					\$ 709.00
Phone														\$ -
Supplies														\$ -
Printing		20.00		20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00		20.00	20.00				\$ 140.00
Postage														\$ -
Other	10.00		15.00											\$ 25.00
Budgeted	208.43	64.00	319.15	289.35	64.00	64.00	65.00	-	309.43	64.00	35.00	55.00	400.00	1,937.36

# **Committee Chairs** Archives:

	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Aug.	35/36	Reg.	Fall	Dec.	WCR	Zonal	Dist	
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	Wrkshp	Forum	Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Forum	Travel	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	50.00	6.00	50.00	50.00	6.00	6.00	50.00		50.00	6.00		-	50.00	324.00
Travel	26.00	26.00	30.00	10.00	26.00	26.00	26.00		26.00	26.00		-	85.00	307.00
Lodging	60.00	-	120.00	65.00	-	-	60.00		60.00			-	-	365.00
Phone														-
Supplies														-
Printing														-
Postage													15.00	15.00
Other	10.00		15.00											25.00
Budgeted	146.00	32.00	215.00	125.00	32.00	32.00	136.00	-	136.00	32.00	-	-	150.00	1,036.00

### Archivist:

	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Aug.	35/36	Reg.	Fall	Dec.	WCR	Zonal	Dist	
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	Wrkshp	Forum	Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Forum	Travel	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	35.00	5.00	60.00	40.00	5.00	5.00	10.00		40.00	5.00			50.00	\$ 255.00
Travel	11.00	24.00	80.00	55.00	24.00	24.00	20.00		25.00	25.00			200.00	\$ 488.00
Lodging	100.00		125.00	110.00					120.00					\$ 455.00
Phone														\$-
Supplies														\$-
Printing														\$-
Storage		200.00		200.00	200.00	200.00			200.00	200.00				\$ 1,200.00
Other	10.00		15.00											\$ 25.00
Budgeted	156.00	229.00	280.00	405.00	229.00	229.00	30.00	-	385.00	230.00	-	-	250.00	2,423.00

## **Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC):**

	Service Wrkshop Budget	Mtg.	WC Reg. <i>Conf.</i> Budget	Spring Assy. Budget	June <i>Mtg.</i> Budget		35/36 <i>Wrkshp</i> Budget		Fall Assy. Budget	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget		Zonal <i>Forum</i> Budget	Dist <i>Travel</i> Budget	Total Budget
Meals	20.00	6.00	45.00	20.00	6.00	6.00	10.00		20.00	6.00		20.00	60.00	\$ 219.00
Travel	15.00	10.00	80.00	30.00	10.00	10.00	30.00		15.00	10.00		30.00	150.00	\$ 390.00
Lodging	50.00		100.00	100.00					100.00				50.00	\$ 400.00
Phone														\$ -
Supplies				25.00			25.00		50.00			20.00	50.00	\$ 170.00
Printing														\$ -
Postage				20.00			20.00							\$ 40.00
Other	10.00		15.00										100.00	\$ 125.00
Budgeted	95.00	16.00	240.00	195.00	16.00	16.00	85.00	-	185.00	16.00	-	70.00	410.00	1,344.00

### **Corrections:**

	Service <i>Wrkshop</i> Budget	Mtg.	WC Reg. <i>Conf.</i> Budget	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	35/36 Wrkshp Budget	<b>Travel</b>		Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Sgtate <i>Corr</i> Meeting	Corr <i>Trans</i> Fairs	Total Budget
Meals	60.00	6.00	90.00	60.00	6.00	6.00	0	30.00	60.00	6.00			\$ 324.00
Travel	15.00	10.00	45.00	25.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	350.00	25.00	15.00	160.00	250.00	\$ 940.00
Lodging	100.00		150.00	100.00					100.00				\$ 450.00
Other	10.00		15.00										\$ 25.00
Budgeted	185.00	16.00	300.00	185.00	21.00	21.00	15.00	380.00	185.00	21.00	160.00	250.00	1,739.00

## Grapevine:

	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Aug.	35/36	Reg.	Fall	Dec.	WCR	Zonal	Disrtict		
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	Wrkshp	Forum	Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Forum	Travel	Total	
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget		Budget	
Meals	60.00	6.00	150.00	70.00	6.00	6.00			90.00	6.00				\$ 394.	.00
Travel	20.00	10.00	90.00	60.00	10.00	10.00	10.00		20.00	10.00				\$ 240.	.00
Lodging	130.00		180.00	130.00					150.00					\$ 590.	.00
Supplies				500.00										\$ 500.	.00
Other	10.00		15.00				-							\$ 25.	.00
Budgeted	220.00	16.00	435.00	760.00	16.00	16.00	10.00	-	260.00	16.00	-	-	-	1,749.0	00

## **Group Records:**

	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Aug.	35/36	Reg.	Fall	Dec.	WCR	Zonal	Dist	
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	Wrkshp	Forum	Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Forum	Travel	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	5.00	-	-	50.00	-	-	-	-	50.00	-	-	-		\$ 105.00
Travel	20.00	-	-	46.25	-		50.00	-	22.50	-	-	-	50.00	\$ 188.75
Lodging	-	-	-	200.00	-			-	200.00	-	-	-		\$ 400.00
**Printing	30.00	103.44	-	103.44	103.44	103.44		-	103.44	103.44	0.00	-		\$ 650.64
Other	10.00	-	-		-			-		-	-	-		\$ 10.00
Budgeted	65.00	103.44		399.69	103.44	103.44	50.00		375.94	103.44			50.00	1,354.39

### Literature:

	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Aug.	35/36	Reg.	Fall	Dec.	WCR	Zonal	Disrtict	
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	Wrkshp	Forum	Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Forum	Travel	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget		Budget
Meals	25.00	6.00	50.00	50.00	6.00	6.00			35.00	6.00				\$ 184.00
Travel	6.00	30.00	60.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	6.00		14.00	30.00			200.00	\$ 436.00
Lodging	117.00		194.00	96.00					106.00					\$ 513.00
Other	10.00		15.00				-							\$ 25.00
Budgeted	158.00	36.00	319.00	176.00	36.00	36.00	6.00	-	155.00	36.00	-	-	200.00	1,158.00

## Northern Light:

	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Aug.	35/36	Fall	Dec.	Zonal	Dist	
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	Wrkshp	Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Travel	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	15.00	6.00	45.00	30.00	6.00	6.00	-	30.00	6.00		-	\$ 144.00
Travel	10.00	15.00	60.00	40.00	15.00	15.00	10.00	20.00	15.00	35.00	100.00	\$ 335.00
Lodging	-	-	200.00	100.00	-	-	-	115.00	-		-	\$ 415.00
Printing	-	350.00	-	350.00	350.00	350.00	-	350.00	350.00		-	\$ 2,100.00
Postage	-	275.00	-	275.00	275.00	275.00	-	275.00	275.00		-	\$ 1,650.00
Other	10.00	-	15.00	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	\$ 25.00
Budgeted	35.00	646.00	320.00	795.00	646.00	646.00	10.00	790.00	646.00	35.00	100.00	4,669.00

### **Public Information:**

	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Aug.	35/36	Reg.	Fall	Dec.	WCR	Zonal	Dist	
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	Wrkshp	Forum	Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Forum	Travel	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals	20.00	6.00	70.00	50.00	6.00	6.00	20.00		50.00	6.00				\$ 234.00
Travel	20.00	5.00	35.00	20.00	5.00	5.00	20.00		10.00	5.00				\$ 125.00
Lodging			267.00	178.00					198.00					\$ 643.00
Supplies											200.00			\$ 200.00
Other	10.00		15.00											\$ 25.00
Budgeted	50.00	11.00	387.00	248.00	11.00	11.00	40.00	-	258.00	11.00	200.00	-	-	1,227.00

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### **Treatment:**

		ervice Tikshop	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i>	WC Reg. <i>Conf.</i>	Spring Assy.	June <i>Mtg.</i>	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i>	35/36 Wrkshp	Reg. <i>Forum</i>	Fall Assy.	Dec. Mtg.	WCR Forum	Zonal <i>Forum</i>	Dist <i>Travel/</i> workshop	То	otal
	B	udget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget		Bud	lget
Meals	\$	15.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 40.00			\$ 6.00			\$ 25.00	\$ 6.00				\$ 1	129.00
Travel	\$	-	\$ 5.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ -		\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00			\$ 350.00	<b>\$</b> 4	455.00
Lodging	\$	-		\$ 125.00	\$110.00			\$ -		\$ 55.00					\$ 2	290.00
Other	\$	10.00		\$ 15.00											\$	25.00
Budgeted	\$	25.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 230.00	\$160.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 11.00	\$ -		\$ 90.00	\$ 11.00			\$ 350.00	\$8	99.00

### Webmaster:

	Service Wrkshop Budget	Mtg.	WC Reg. <i>Conf.</i> Budget	Assy.	Mtg.		35/36 Wrkshp Budget		Fall Assy. Budget	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	WCR <i>Forum</i> Budget	Zonal <i>Forum</i> Budget	Dist <i>Travel</i> Budget	Total Budget
Meals	75.00	5.00	100.00	75.00	5.00	5.00	DanPos	Daaboo	75.00	5.00	Tages	Daaboo	DanPos	\$ 345.00
Travel	76.00	45.00	150.00	30.00	45.00	45.00	50.00		35.00	45.00			200.00	\$ 721.00
Lodging	200.00		200.00	200.00					200.00					\$ 800.00
Printing	25.00													\$ 25.00
Postage														\$ -
Other	10.00		15.00											\$ 25.00
Budgeted	386.00	50.00	465.00	305.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	-	310.00	50.00	-	-	200.00	1,916.00

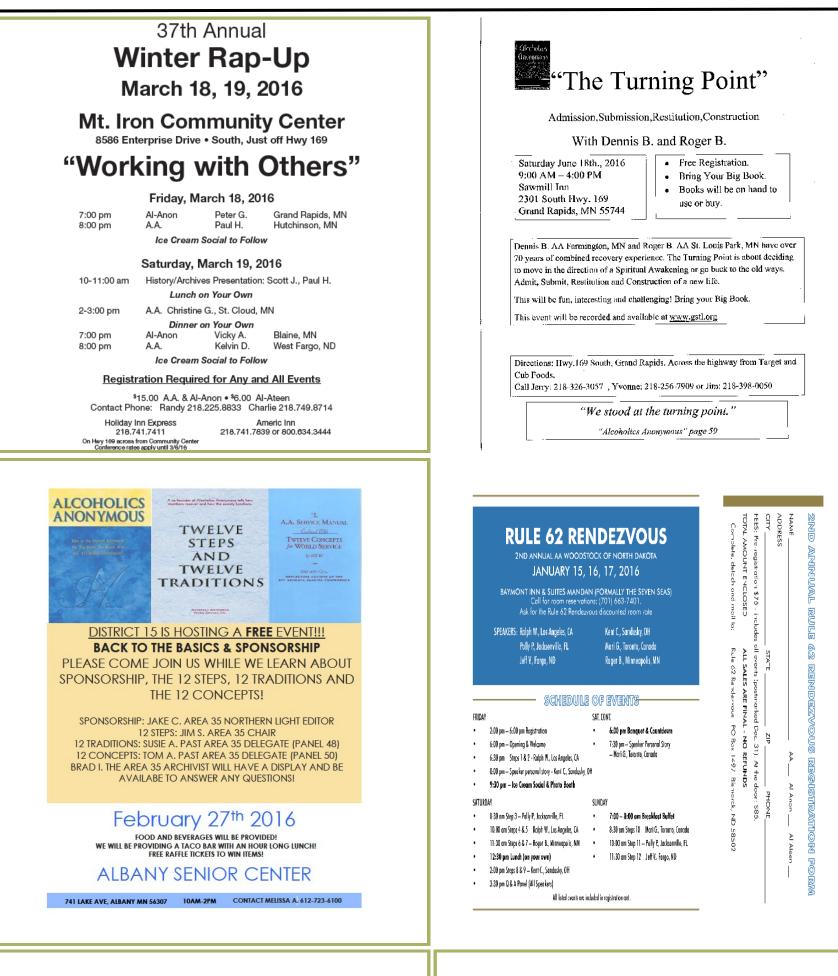
### Area Events:

	Service Wrkshop Budget	Feb. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	VC Reg <i>Conf.</i> Budget	Assy.	June <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	Aug. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	35/36 <i>Wrkshp</i> Budget		Fall Assy. Budget	Dec. <i>Mtg.</i> Budget	WCR <i>Forum</i> Budget		Dist <i>Travel</i> Budget	Total Budget
Travel	635.00													\$ 635.00
Lodging	210.00													\$ 210.00
Rent	675.00	50.00		1,750.00	50.00	50.00	100.00		650.00	50.00				\$ 3,375.00
Coffee	540.00			750.00			150.00		750.00					\$ 2,190.00
Other									200.00					\$ 200.00
Budgeted	2,060.00	50.00	-	2,500.00	50.00	50.00	250.00	-	1,600.00	50.00	-	-	-	6,610.00

## **Financial Oversight Committee:**

	Service	Feb.	WC Reg.	Spring	June	Aug.	35/36	Reg.	Fall	Dec.	WCR	Zonal	Dist	
	Wrkshop	Mtg.	Conf.	Assy.	Mtg.	Mtg.	Wrkshp	Forum	Assy.	Mtg.	Forum	Forum	Travel	Total
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Meals		13.00			13.00	13.00				13.00				\$ 52.00
Travel		27.00			27.00	27.00				27.00				\$ 108.00
Lodging		-			-	-				-				\$ -
Phone		-			-	-				-				\$ -
Supplies		-			-	-				-				\$ -
Printing		-			-	-				-				\$ -
Postage		-			-	-				-				\$ -
Other		-			-	-				-				\$ -
Budgeted		40.00	-	-	40.00	40.00	-	-	-	40.00	-	-	-	160.00

January/February 2016



#### MORA A.A. SPEAKER MEETING

What is it?

- A pot luck and speaker meeting to bring the message of fellowship and recovery to the recovery community in the greater Mora area with: > A.A. speaker
  - > Al-Anon Family Group speaker

### THERE IS A SOLUTION

BIG BOOK STUDY GROUP EVERY THURSDAY

#### Please bring your favorite dish to share!

· OPEN MEETING - Everyone is welcome to include; non A.A.'s, Al-Anon's, family members, friends and anyone interested in recovery from alcoholism.

#### When ?

- 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month EVERY MONTH!

  - Potluck starts at 6 PM
     Meeting opens at 6:45 followed by:
    - Al-Anon speaker
       A.A. speaker
  - > Meeting closes at 8 PM

#### Where?

- Lower Level Mora Public Library (follow sidewalk around back)
- Address: 200 West Maple Ave Mora MN 55051

Contacts: Jodie 320-209-1941 (AA) Darin 320-496-0216 (AA) Rachelle 612-220-7657 (Al-Anon)

"Give freely of what you find and join us. We shall be with you in the Fellowship of the Spirit, and you will surely meet some of us as you Fellowship of the optim, and fring " trudge the Road of Happy Destiny." Pg.164 Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous

START TIME 6:30 PM WRIGHT. MN BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH HIGHWAY 210 AND COUNTY 20 TAKE A RIGHT CHURCH ON THE LEFT FOURTH THURSDAYOF THE MONTH POTLUCK DINNER AND SPEAKER DINNER STARTS AT 5:30 PM SPEAKER STARTS AT 6:30 PM CONTACT ANDY L. 218-343-6385

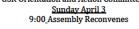
#### Area 35 Spring Assembly

April 2-3, 2016

Crookston Inn 2200 University Ave. Crookston, MN 56716 218-281-5210

Group rate: \$82.9 plus tax (2- Double Beds) Mention" Area35" to receive group rate Reserve Before March 1, 2016

Agenda Saturday April 2 9:00 am Registration 10:00 GSR Orientation and Action Committee Meetings







Pre-registration is important! We need a guaranteed number for the caterer Please call Leslie H. at 218-280-1627 to pre-register (no texting). Or, optionally email her at jhandyside@gytel.com to pre-register.

Fling) (In case of weather-inspired cancellation, email notification will be provided if possible, or call above number to inquire.)



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#### **NORTHERN LIGHT PRIMARY PURPOSE:**

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

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

#### **EDITORIAL POSITION & N.L. COMMITTEE:**

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

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

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

#### N.L. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

The Committee meets every other month, before the start of the Area Work-

#### Directions for putting a flyer into the Northern Light newsletter:

- First & foremost <u>contact the Northern Light Editor</u> at <u>northernlight@area35</u>.org or call the phone number for the Northern Light Editor listed on page 3 of the hard copy, print version of The Northern Light (this will change every 2 years).
- 2. Email a pdf of the flyer to <u>northernlight@area35.org</u> for approval. Upon approval it will be forwarded it to the webmaster to place in the Area 35 website calendar of events.
- 3. Upon approval mail 600 flyers to:

Cold Spring Record PO Box 456 403 West Wind Court Cold Spring, MN 56320 with an attn: Northern Light on the mailing address.

Include a note stating they are to be inserted into the next Northern Light.

4. Cost is \$75. This is to defer the cost of inserting the flyers into the Northern Light. Make check payable to NMAA.

- 5. If you wish to have Cold Spring Record print the flyers to be inserted in the Northern Light, I will forward the pdf file of your flyer to them, along with your copying instructions; printing costs are: 600 one-sided copies - \$48; 600 copied on both sides - \$60. This will be on top of the initial \$75.

### NORTHERN LIGHT SUBMISSIONS:

General submissions to the *Northern Light* are very welcome! Feel free to send letters or articles that are pertinent to Alcoholics Anonymous. However, please note that if space is limited, first priority will be given to reports from Area Officers, Area Standing Committee Chairs and D.C.M.s from Area 35.

Submissions are preferred electronically using a Word or WordPad document to the Area's newsletter e-mail address: <u>northernlight@area35.org</u>. Most other file formats can also be accepted. You may also send articles or letters to my postal address, listed on page 2. The deadline for each Issue is printed on the front page.

Letters to the Editor or opinion articles should have a title. They also can not be anonymous please include the first name, last initial and name of the city where the author is from. If you have any questions regarding submitting an item for the *Northern Light*, please

6. Mail payment and 1 copy of the flyer to:

NMAA PO Box 411, Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750

#### RELATED INFORMATION

- Only Area 35 A.A. members may submit flyers. Flyers must be for A.A. sponsored events.
- Flyers needed 600.

#### Northern Light deadlines are as follows:

- · January 21: flyer will be include in the January February Issue
- · March 1: flyer will be include in the March April issue
- · May 1: flyer will be include in the May June issue
- July 1: flyer will be include in the July August issue
- September 1: flyer will be include in the September October issue
- · November 1: flyer will be include in the November December issue

#### **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 con-

duct 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 sub-

#### TWELVE TRADITIONS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS—LONG FORM

#### Our A.A. experience has taught us that:

- 1. Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.
- 2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.
- 3. Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.
- 4. With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.
- 5. Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose—that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.
- 6. Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be

that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those services for which we may otherwise have to engage nonalcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. "12 Step" work is never to be paid for.

Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our overall public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A.—and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one.

- 7. The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think
- 10. No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues—particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.

11. Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise our-

### Area Committee Meeting — Feb 28, 2016 - 9:00 am Aitkin Alano Club 322 First Avenue N.E. Aitkin, MN 56431

2016 West Central Regional Forum — Mar 4 – 6, 2016
Ramada Bismarck
1400 East Interchange Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501

Northern Light Deadline — March 8th, 2016

Area 35 Spring Assembly — April 2-3, 2016 9am Crookston Inn, Crookston MN

Northern Light Deadline — May 2nd, 2016

Delegate Report Back — Start Scheduling your district's NOW!

June Committee Meeting — June 5, 2016 9:00 am Aitkin Alano Club 322 First Avenue N.E. Aitkin, MN 56431

	November 2015							December 2015						
Sun	day Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	<b>26</b> Thanksgiving Day	27	28		20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas	26
29	30							27	28	29	30	31		

	Upcon	ning	Event	is in	Areas	35 &	36 r	ote: Area 35	o events take	precedence	!	
30							28	29				

Alexandria's 12th Annual Big Ole Roundup March 11 – 13, 2016 Holiday Inn 5637 St Hwy 29 S Alexandria, MN 56308 Page 23



#### AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA DECEMBER 6, 9:00 AM 9:00 A.M. Action Chair Committee Meetings (9:30 a.m. Financial Oversight Committee) 10:30 A.M. Area Committee Meeting Call to Order Open With the Serenity Prayer Recognize Past Delegates

\_\_\_\_\_ Add to Agenda

\_\_\_\_ Dec 2015 Committee Minutes

#### **OFFICER REPORTS**

\_\_\_\_ Delegate – Kelly D.

Alternate Delegate – Roger R.

\_\_\_\_ Chair – Jim S.

\_\_\_\_\_ Secretary – Rillis E.

Treasurer – Christine G.

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS**

CPC – Jim T. District 1 – Leslie H. District 21 – Jeff L. WEBMASTER - Bob B. LITERATURE – Skip D. District 11 - Sharla W. District 7 – Liz L. NORTHERN LIGHT – Jake C. **GROUP RECORDS** District 14 – Paul E. District 6 - Renell P. TREATMENT – Gayle R. District 18 – BR Borders District 12 – Steve E. ARCHIVIST – Brad I. ARCHIVES – Steve D. District 8 – Scott M. District 4 – Deb S. CORRECTIONS - Servando M. District 2 – Myron H. District 13 – Al K. District 15 – Melissa A. PI – Mark N. District 9 – Cathy R. District 5 – Jon S. GRAPEVINE - Paul M. District 3 – Brian P. District 16 – Mike F.

**12:00 P.M.** Lunch **12:45 P.M.** Reconvene

### **OLD BUSINESS**

\_\_\_\_ Budgets

NEW BUSINESS: FOC Report Webmaster and Group Records

<ul> <li>2016 Agenda Items/Area 35/dis 5 proposal</li> <li>Spring Assembly</li> <li>January Workshop Report</li> <li>Annual Service Workshop Evalutions</li> <li>WCRAASC</li> <li>Calandar of Events</li> <li>Adjourn</li> </ul>	
Mail Area 35 Group contributions to	NMAA PO Box 411