Northern Light 2219 3rd Avenue West Hibbing, MN 55746

**Change Service Requested** 

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

# Deadline for the next Northern Light is June 30, 2024

# This is **YOUR** Newsletter Area 35

Ada, Aitkin, Akeley, Alango, Albany, Alexandria, Audubon, Aurora. Avon, Babbitt, Backus, Badger, Bagley, Barnesville, Barnum, Battle Lake, Baudette, Baxter, Beaver Bay, Becker, Bemidji, Bethel, Big Lake, Biwabik, Blackduck, Bowstring, Boy River, Braham, Brainerd, Brimson, Brookston, Browerville, Browns Valley, Cambridge, Carlos, Cass Lake, Chisholm, Clarissa, Cloquet, Cohasset, Cold Spring, Cook, Cormorant, Cotton, Crookston, Cross Lake, Debs, Deer Creek, Deer River, Detroit Lakes, Dilworth, Duluth, Eagle Bend, Effic, Elbow Lake, Elizabeth, Elk River, Ely, Erhard, Erskine, Esko, Evansville, Eveleth, Fergus Falls, Fertile, Finland, Finlayson, Floodwood, Foley, Forest Lake, Fort Ripley, Fosston, Foxborro, Frazee, Fredenberg, Garrison, Gilbert, Glenwood, Goodland, Grand Marais, Grand Portage, Grand Rapids, Grasston, Grygla, Hallock, Halma, Harris, Hawley, Henning, Henriette, Herman, Hermantown, Hibbing, Hill City, Hinckley, Holdingford, Hoyt Lakes, International Falls, Ironton, Isanti, Isle, Keewatin, Kelly Lake, Kensington, Kimball, Knife River, Lake Henry, Lake Lena, Lake Park, Lawrence Lake, Little Falls, Littlefork, Long Prairie, Longville, Lutsen, Mahnomen, Mahtowa, Malmo, McGregor, Melrose, Menahga, Middle River, Milaca, Moorhead, Moose Lake, Mora, Morris, Motley, Mountain Iron, Nashwauk, Naytahwaush, Nett Lake, Nisswa, North Branch, Ogilvie, Onigum, Orr, Osage, Osakis, Otsegd, Otfertail, Palisade, Palo, Park Rapids, Parkers Prairie, Paynesville, Pelican Rapids, Pequot Lakes, Perham, Pierz, Pike, Pike Lake, Pillager, Pine City, Pine River, Princeton, Proctor, Quamba, Rainy River, Red Lake, Red Lake Falls, Remer, Rice, Richmond, Rock Creek, Roseau, Rush City, Sandstone, Sartell, Sauk Centre, Sauk Rapids, Sawyer, Shevlin, Side Lake, Silver Bay, Solway, Squaw Lake, St. Cloud, St. Francis, St. Joseph, St. Stephen, Stapels, Stephen, Superior, Thief River Falls, Toivola, Tower, Twin Valley, Two Harbors, Underwood, Verndale, Virginia, Wadena, Wahkon, Waite Park, Walker, Warba, Warren, Warroad, Watkins, Waubun, Will

Attention SNOWBIRDS let us know you are leaving! Send address change request to grouprecords@area35.org.

Send articles and comments for publication to northernlight@area35.org

Don't forget to visit and bookmark your Area 35 web site! - http://area35.org

# NORTHERN LIGHT

Created 1982 Page 2

#### **2024-25 AREA 35 COMMITTEE**

AREA OFFICERS

**DELEGATE** 

Diane R delegate@area35.org

**ALT DELEGATE** 

Pat M.

alt delegate@area35.org

**AREA CHAIR** 

Vicki R

areachair@area35.org

**TREASURER** 

Heidi B

treasurer@area35.org

**SECRETARY** 

Denise R

secretary@area35.org

AREA COMMITTEE **CHAIRS** 

**ARCHIVES** 

Cathy R

archives@area35.org

**ARCHIVIST** 

Marc N

archivist@area35.org

**AUDIO ENGINEER** 

Aaron A

andrews73@gmail.com

(CPC) COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSION-AL COMMUNITY

cpc@area35.org

**CORRECTIONS** 

Mark R corrections@area35.org

**FINANCIAL OVER-SIGHT COMMITTEE** 

Scott A

Jessica S

**GRAPEVINE** 

Terry A grapevine@area35.org

**GROUP RECORDS** 

Phyllis K

grouprecords@area35.org

**LITERATURE** 

Mike U

literature@area35.org

**NORTHERN LIGHT** 

Jennifer T

northernlight@area35.org

**PUBLIC INFORMATION** 

Randy A pi@area35.org

**TREATMENT** 

Kyle H treatment@area35.org

WEBMASTER

Terry P

webmaster@area35.org

D.C.M.'s) DISTRICT COMMITTEE

**MEMBERS DISTRICT 1** 

No information dcm1@area35.org

**DISTRICT 2** 

No information dcm2@area35.org

**DISTRICT 3** 

Melvin S dcm3@area35.org

**DISTRICT 4** James W

dcm4@area35.org

**DISTRICT 5** 

Chad O dcm5@area35.org **DISTRICT 6** 

Julie N dcm6@area35.org

**DISTRICT 7** 

Jessica S dcm7@area35.org

**DISTRICT 8** 

John J dcm8@area35.org

**DISTRICT 9** 

Tom T dcm9@area35.org

**DISTRICT 11** 

Kathy M

dcm11@area35.org

**DISTRICT 12** 

Richard G dcm12@area35.org

**DISTRICT 13** 

Margaret M dcm13@area35.org

**DISTRICT 14** 

No information dcm14@area35.org

**DISTRICT 15** 

Fred T

dcm15@area35.org

**DISTRICT 16** 

Dave C

dcm16@area35.org

**DISTRICT 17** 

No information dcm17@area35.org

**DISTRICT 18** 

Rick A

dcm18@area35.org

**DISTRICT 21** 

Jeri S

dcm21@area35.org

## **TABLE**

### Regular Articles

#### 2024 - 2025 Area 35 Committee Page 2 Page 3 District Map & Zone Breakdown District Meeting Location Information Page 3 Page 4-10 Area Committee Meeting Minutes Page 11-13 Northern Light Committee Reports

Page 18-20 Area Events Page 20 Agenda Deadlines

Page 21 Northern Light SubmissionGuidelines

Page 22 Area 35 Flier Guidelines Page 22 **Inclement Weather Procedure** 

Page 22 Acronyms Page 23 Past Delegates Page 24 Agenda

### **Guest Views**

Page 16 Editorial Page 17 Big Book Guide

### **Edition Extras**

Page 13 Tradition Checklist

Page 14-15 Spring Assembly Evaluation Page 15 Group Records Information

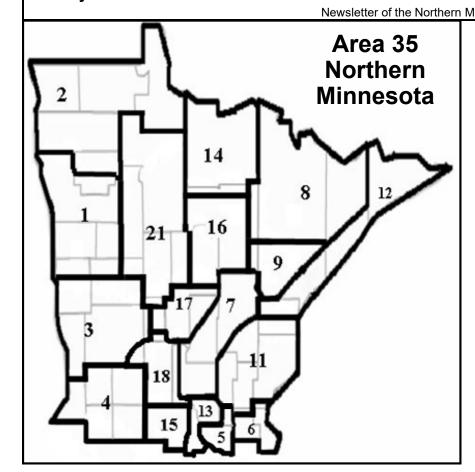
The Northern Light is a confidential document, meant only for AA members. It contains members' full names and addresses. This usage does not in any way violate our Tradition of anonymity to the public communications media. Names, phone numbers, addresses, and email addresses may not be used for any solicitation purposes. The articles and opinions expressed herein are strictly the personal opinions of those expressing them.

May/June 2024

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Page 3

Created 1982



#### **Zone I**

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

District 2 - Badger, Baudette, Halma, Middle River, Roseau, Stephen, Thief River Falls, Warren, Warroad, Williams

**District 16** - Big Fork, Bowstring, Boy River, Cohasset, Deer River, Grand Rapids, Goodland, 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, Osakis,

**District 15** - Albany, Avon, Cold Spring, Holdingford, Lake Henry, Melrose, New London, 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, North Branch, Rock Creek, Stacy, St. Francis, Rush City

**District 7** - Aitkin, Baxter, Brainerd, Fort Ripley, Garrison, Ironton, Isle, Little Falls\*, Malmo, McGregor\*, Palisade, Pierz, Pillager\*, Wahkon

**District 11** - Finlayson\*, Grasston, Henriette, Hinckley\*, Lake Lena, Moose Lake\*, Mora, Ogilvie, Pine City, Quamba, Sandstone, Willow River

District 13 - Kimball, Rice, St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids, Waite Park, Foley

District 17 - Backus, Cross Lake, Nisswa, Pequot Lakes, Pillager\*, Pine River

**District 18** - Browerville, 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,

District 9 - Chisholm, Floodwood, Hibbing, Keewatin, Kelly Lake, Lawrence Lake\*, Nashwauk\*, Zim

District 12 - Beaver Bay, Silver Bay, Barnum, Brimson, Brookston, Cloquet, Duluth, Esko, Finland, Fredenberg, Grand Marais, Grand Portage, Hermantown, Knife River, Lawrence Lake\*, Lutsen, Mahtowa, Pike Lake, Proctor, Sawyer, Foxborro (Wisconsin), Side Lake, Superior (Wisconsin), Toivola, Two Harbors

**District 14** - International Falls, Littlefork, Rainy River (Ontario, Canada)

### **District Meeting Location Information**

#### **District 1**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of even months, 2:00 p.m. Fertile Community Center 101 S Mill Street Fertile, MN 56540

#### **District 2**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of odd months, 3:00 p.m. Thief River Falls Alano Club 614 Davis Ave Thief River Falls, MN 56701

#### District 3

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month, 12:00 p.m. Perham Alano Club 43452 County Hwy 34 Perham, MN 56573

#### District 4

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of month, 5:00 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. (use side door that opens to parking lot) Trinity Lutheran Church 111 N 6<sup>th</sup> Ave Princeton, MN 55371

#### District 6

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month, 7:00 p.m. Spring Lake Lutheran Church 8440 Erickson Rd NE North Branch, MN 55056

#### **District 7**

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month, 7:00 p.m. First Congregational United Church 415 Juniper Street Brainerd, MN 56401

#### **District 8**

Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m. General District Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Day and location rotate. Contact DCM for info.

#### **District 9**

Last Sunday of month, 6:00 p.m. Hibbing Alano Club 3725 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue Hibbing, MN 55746

#### District 11

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

#### District 12

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month, 6:30 p.m. 1100 E Superior Street Duluth, MN Handicap Accessible

#### District 13

1st Monday of month, 7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. St. Cloud Alano Club 127 7<sup>th</sup> Ave NE Saint Cloud, MN 56301

#### District 14

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month, 6:30pm Coffee Landing 444 3<sup>rd</sup> Street International Falls, MN 56649

#### District 15

1<sup>st</sup> Monday of month, 7:00 p.m. Albany Community Center 741 Lake Ave Albany, MN 56307

#### District 16

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of month, 6:30 p.m. United Methodist Church 1701 SE 5<sup>th</sup> Ave Grand Rapids, MN 55744 Handicap Accessible

#### District 17

Not currently active or unknown

#### District 18

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of month, 6:00 p.m. Long Prairie Alano Club 21 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Long Prairie, MN 56347

#### District 21

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of month, 7:00 p.m. Bemidji Alano Club 3802 Greenleaf Ave NW Bemidji, MN 56601

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Created 1982

Page 4

### **AREA 35 MEETING MINUTES**

Area 35 Spring Assembly Minutes Crookston, MN April 6-7, 2024

**Call to Order:** Area Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 6, 2024, and opened with the Serenity Prayer. There were 112 people in attendance.

**Recognition of Past Delegates In Attendance:** Area 35 – Charlie C, Panel 54; Jim K, Panel 62; Jake J, Panel 64; Christine G, Panel 68; Steve L, Panel 72; Area 36 – Scott A, Panels 57 and 59

**Additions to Agenda:** Assembly Meeting Times, Allowing Delegates to vote at World Service Meeting,

Add the Founder's Writings to the Conference Charter

Approval of October 2023 Fall Assembly Minutes: Rich motioned to approve the minutes, Jeff seconded. Motion PASSED.

**Points of Order:** Please limit sharing at the mic to two minutes, and please refrain from crosstalk.

**Agenda Item Sharing Sessions** were facilitated by Delegate, Diane R. Agenda Item discussion ended at 9:10 p.m.

### OFFICER REPORTS DELEGATE-DIANE R

Hello Friends, My name is Diane R, alcoholic, Serving Area 35 Northern MN as your Delegate.

March was a busy month. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Area 35 Delegate at the West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference (WCRAASC). Attendance was 328, which included 82 that joined us via Zoom.

Area 35 was well-represented both in person at Minot and online. During the delegates only meeting we met all the nominees for the West Central Region Trustees. Every General Service Conference Agenda Item was discussed providing everyone with an opportunity to discuss and ask questions. This is an excellent way to learn more about each Agenda Item so you can share that information with the Fellowship in your district, group, or Area.

Two of my favorite presentations are the Past Trustee Sharing Session and Ask It Basket. We had Ken B., Tom A., and Ted S, who are our past Regional Trustees. They each made a presentation and answered our questions.

General Sharing Session were "Overcoming the Barriers to Participation," "Connecting Home Groups to the Conference throughout the year to Better Inform the Group's Conscience," "1728 Sponsorship," and "Safety throughout the Structure in Our Fellowship". Thank you to Jessica S. and Randy A. for their excellent presentations on our topic of "1728 Sponsorship".

Additionally, there were four workshops, which I attended the one on "Participation of Online Groups in this Service Structure." The discussion brought out the questions surrounding online groups and their place in the service structure.

Looking ahead, the West Central Service Conference will take place in Wyoming from February 27 to March 2, 2025. The next West Central Regional Forum will be in Omaha Nebraska September 2025.

Financially, the WCRAASC has been operating below the \$9,000 prudent reserve since before 2022. To address this, a comparative analysis of the last several WCRAASC will be prepared after the 2024 Conference financial statement is completed. This analysis will be distributed to the delegates by the end of May for discussions with their areas. Discussion by the WCR delegates will take place this year in September 2024 to discuss funding options.

Julie N, from District 6, invited me to the Isanti Alano Club on March 16 where District 6, District 11, and District 5 were in attendance. We had a thorough discussion about some of the GSC Agenda Items. It was a well-attended with lots of valuable information shared, food and fellowship. On March 21 I was in Brainerd with District 7 sharing the Agenda Items where again there was Agenda Item sharing, food, and fellowship. On March 24 I was at Hibbing Alano Club, District 9. There was a request to have an online Agenda Item meeting and that was held on April 23. Thank you to all the groups that shared, participated, and asked questions.

With the General Service Conference fast approaching from 4/14/24 to 4/20/26, I am looking forward to the opportunity to represent our Area 35. I will read the Plan Language Big Book for two hours on 4/14/24 at 6:30am. The conference ends at 10:30 on Saturday morning.

Upon my return, I look forward to sharing the outcomes of the General Service Conference with all districts. I encourage all District Committee Chairs (DCMs) to set dates with me for their report back from the conference.

In Service Diane R.

#### <u>ALTERNATE DELEGATE – PAT M</u>

Hi, I am Pat M.

I am an alcoholic, and I am your Alternate Delegate. I attended to West Central regional conference which was held in Minot North Dakota. I had the privilege of attending the delegates meetings as an observer. One of the highlights from you was meeting the rest of the alternate delegates in person and getting to know them.

I've been studying the agenda items. I became Diane's Shadow wherever she went to go over the agenda items. I followed I got this idea from other alternate delegates at our North American alternate delegate meetings as an alternate delegate. I need to be well informed of all agenda items and one other area is thinking on the agenda items. I also learned on the NAAD meetings, because I'm only one phone call away from going to the conference in New York. I also had the privilege of presenting the agenda items to district 13, thank you very much District 13. I have been in NAAD and Delegate meetings as an observer, at our last NAAD I learned about third legacy sponsorship where your sponsor sponsors in unity, recovery, and service. One sponsor, it's like having a three-legged stool, you cannot have two legs, your stool will not stand, if one leg is missing your stool will tip over.

Yours and service your Alternate Delegate. Pat M

#### AREA CHAIR - VICKI R

Hello! Since our February ACM, I've prepared for Spring Assembly, making sure I have organized this event so you can experience the assembly without a hitch. I've worked with the Treasurer on budgets (although I must say Heidi has taken the lead 99%). I've set up folders in Office 365 for each ad hoc committee and populated the folders with relevant starting materials. I've continued to deposit contributions that come to my address.

I've had several conversations with various DCMs to make requests and discuss agenda items along with email and other communications with Area members.

I attended West Central Regional Service Conference in Minot ND and continued to learn.

An important activity for me is that I have joined a Concepts study group that meets weekly. I also attended the zoom session that was put on with the current Trustee and Chair of the Literature committee to discuss the requested survey about changing the founders' writings.

#### SECRETARY – DENISE R

I attended the West Central Regional Service Conference in Minot, ND and heard many interesting ideas on all the Agenda Items. I am grateful I was able to attend in person and meet Vera from AAWS as well as see Kerry Meyer, one of our Class A Trustees. Vera shared a very powerful message of her experience strength and hope. The only bump in the road was the winter weather and getting stuck an extra night in Minot, however being stuck together with other alcoholics is always a good time!!

I created my first flyer for the Fall Assembly and was able to figure out how to include a QR code for hotel registration. I just keep learning and growing as I am of service to alcoholics anonymously.

I received the replacement laptop from our Webmaster and look forward to using it to take notes and prepare the minutes.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 35, Denise R.

#### TREASURER - HEIDI B

Hello Area, 35 – Since the Feb ACM, I've been working on 2024 budgets. There have been updates to the preliminary budgets that were in the Jan/Feb issue of the Northern Light. I added in actual costs, as well as revisions from the Area Officers and Committee Chairs. Our total 2024 budget is \$63,109.67, which is less than the preliminary budget of \$68,000, but more than projected group contributions. The Area relies on group contributions for income. This means that groups must commit to provide over \$63,000 in contributions/other income to support this budget. In 2023, 208 groups contributed to the area. If 208 groups contribute again this year (452 active groups), each group will need to commit to sending the area \$303 this year, via contributions and birthday plan contributions. Please consider this while reviewing the budgets. Please grab a copy of the final budgets on the literature table and let me know if you have any questions. You will also be welcome to ask questions during the budget presentation. Period 2 financials are on the table. We've received \$10,677.69 in group contributions for 2024. Ninety-nine groups have contributed through Period 2, for an average group contribution of \$110.33. Thank you for your support in Area 35!

Have you heard about the Birthday Plan? What if you were to contribute 1 cent to the Area for every day of your sobriety, which would be \$3.65 a year. For example, if you're celebrating 5 years of sobriety – that's an \$18.25 contribution. If your home group is unable to contribute the suggested \$303 to support the Area budget, consider supplementing this with birthday contributions. Set a challenge for your home-group and then be sure to include your home-group number when you send in your birthday contribution, and your group will get credit.

#### Volume XLII Issue 3

May/June 2024

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Created 1982

Page 5

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Our Period 2 area finances through 3/31/24:

Feb-Mar YTD

Income:

Contributions: 7,833.2510,677.69 1,260.994,750.34 Other

\$9,094.24 \$15,428.03 Total Income:

Expenses:

5,196.0911,414.61

Period 2 8,909.1614,120.84

\$14,105.25 \$25,535.45 TT Expense:

Net Profit(Loss) (5,011.01) (10,107.42)Net Loss L&GV (4086.15) (5,521.99)

\*\*Net loss due to expenses not including GV&Lit

Grapevine

1,098.78390.42 Sales: Period 1

Purchases: (6,157.93)(726.71)

(336.28) (4,585.43) Net (Loss): (4,249,15)

Sales: Period 2 99.94 850.00 (4,309.38)(726.71)Purchases:

(626.77) (4,086.15) Net (Loss) (3,459.38)

Yours in service, Heidi B

Old Business began at 9:42 p.m. Saturday.

Ad hoc Committee Updates - Inventory recommendations; Articles of Association/ Web/Technology, Zonal forums- Vicki stated Office 365 Folders have been set up for each committee- please have recommendations ready to present at the Fall Assembly.

Approve Phyllis K. as Group Records Chair – Motion to accept Phyllis K. as Group Records made by Nick D., Seconded Bud M. - Motion **PASSED** 

#### Registration Fee for January Service Workshop-Motion by Bud M. to increase registration to \$25, seconded by Kyle H.

-some members felt it should be free for all especially encouraging new

-Coffee is a big expense that we continually lose money on-

-We strive to have the workshop be self-supporting.

-The registration fee has remained \$15 for quite some time, at the October 2020 Fall Assembly there was a motion that passed to KEEP registration at

Motion to Table until Fall Assembly made by Michelle B. motion seconded by Jeff- Motion PASSED

#### Closed Assembly at 10:00pm-

Reconvene Sunday at 8:00am instead of 9:00am

#### **SUNDAY MORNING SESSION**

Area Chair opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m.

There is a two-minute time limit for sharing at the mic.

Please write down any motions that are more than five words.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### 2024 Budgets -

-How do we budget? Budgets are prepared for each position to fulfill their duties- always keeping in mind if the money is not there when needed, we make adjustments.

-an alt GSR stated they would like to see a 3-5 people cap on sending Area Officers/Chairs to the WCRAASC- This event has already occurred but could be discussed as a possible agenda item at the Fall Assembly-

-Audio Tec Budget listed no cost for lodging or meals? For consistency and the next rotation of Trusted Servants, we budget for position whether it is used or not- projected costs will be added in for this position

-Audio Tec Budget listed \$620 for equipment- because some of the equipment (an amp) we had this weekend died, we need new and better especially considering we will be hosting the WCR Forum in the near future - an additional \$500.00 was added-

-We have \$6,000 plus interest in prudent reserve-

-We have 208 groups that are currently contributing- if each of those 208 groups contributed \$25.25 per month, we would balance the budget--\$5,250 per month would be needed to cover the complete budget

-Would like more explanations on miscellaneous expenses

-Larger cost difference between Spring assembly and Fall assembly- Since we move from Zone to Zone, we look for the best option in each Zone- Cost of Fall Assembly in Alexandria is more reasonable than where we are now in

Motion to Accept the Budget as written adding the additional \$500 Audio Equipment needed and costs of lodging and meals for Audio Tec position- Motion made by Will, seconded by Lee E. Motion PASSED

Pro/Con presentation and 20 minutes Sharing Session- Add Intergroup Website Links to Area 35 Website-

#### Julie DCM District 6 Pro Side –

-Read from the Service Manual Appendix S –

-Having Intergroups on Area 35 Website would help with good communication, unity and service. Duluth, Minneapolis, St. Cloud and St. Paul

-District 6 is on the border of 3 Intergroups that provide services within a 50

miles radius, St. Paul, Minneapolis and St. Cloud Intergroups all border Dis-

-Introduced a member from Rush City that shared experience of coming into the rooms of AA because of calling an Intergroup

#### Kathy DCM District 11 Con Side -

-Cons of having Intergroup on the Area Website was that it is considered part of AA and that if we don't agree with it, we are not reaching as far as we can to help the still-suffering alcoholic.

-Page 24 of the Service Manual states that General Service Committees and Intergroups are autonomous but vital service structures. They work together in cooperation

-AA Groups may elect a representative to the local intergroup/central office. -Areas have liaisons between intergroup and area which promotes good relationship and communication.

-The AA Group Pamphlet page 26, PI/CPC works with Intergroup, District or Area PI to carry the message locally. Keeps their home groups informed of

-Where Money and Spirituality Mix pamphlet states the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition – We are self-supporting through our own contributions. The local intergroup or central office which may provide phone service for twelfth step calls and other inquiries; coordinates group activities etc....

-The Area has not been supported by intergroup

-Most problems come from lack of communication and knowledge- In the end this report turned into a positive as it opened the door to the possibilities of being better able to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic as an

#### **Sharing Session/Discussion -**

-A GSR stated no harm in linking to Area 35 Website to help the still suffering alcoholic

-A Committee Chair shared when they were new, they googled Intergroup and did not know Area 35 or Area 36 existed. Intergroups are a good thing outside of Alcoholics Anonymous Service Structure. This discussion started because we were approached by an outside entity, SCI (St. Cloud Intergroup). This group went around District 5 recruiting Groups and asking for Donations. They came to Area 35 and asked for their link to be on our website-they have no business on our website. No problem with other Intergroups St Paul, Minneapolis as they do what's right and follow the rules, SCI does not.

-The Group Records Secretary stated from the computer side there is conflict in what they do as Registrar- If a group registers with an Intergroup, the Intergroup may have control over the meeting listing on the Meeting Guide so if your group informs Area 35 Group Records of a change in the meeting, Group Records can't help as they don't have control over your Group's meeting listing on the Meeting Guide. Part of Area Group Records Secretary's job is to register Groups with GSO through Fellowship Connection- Intergroups do not register groups on Fellowship Connection. Communication between Intergroups is needed

-Area Officer stated Intergroups are a fabulous idea however Area 35 website is a service website it's not really meant to get people sober or help a newcomer find a meeting. Statement of Purpose on our Area 35 Website says It is a General Service website that serves Area 35 Northern Mn to provide information regarding etc.... It's a website for service, not for the newcomer trying to get sober.

-A past Delegate spoke concerning St. Cloud Intergroup (SCI) stating they don't participate in Area activities and continue to cause disruption at the Area. A letter was read from Dennis B. the Executive Director of the St. Paul Intergroup to SCI giving many reasons including being in direct contradiction with AA traditions why St. Paul Intergroup would not be linked, affiliated, or associated with SCI. One reason being the address listed for the SCI office is in fact the office of the Recovery Community Network. ETC... -An Alt DCM shared how he started receiving emails from SCI and had no idea who they were. Email showed they are not AA but recovery and involved with different things. Does not believe we should be associated with them and now just deletes the unsolicited emails. How did SCI get his email found it troubling they got ahold of it and continue to use it.

-A DCM stated how difficult it has been to do service in our District for all the reasons people have already shared about. It has been hard to find people to serve, no one wants to deal with members of SCI. They have caused much disunity for us over the last many years and there is nothing to do about it. -A DCM thanked people for bringing this information out to us all, stating we all need to know so we can make a good vote on it- consider adding St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth Intergroups to the Website and not the St. Cloud

Chair closed the Sharing Session -

Bring back discussion to groups for Fall Assembly so we can come to a decision with 3 possible options-

1 - leave all intergroups off

2 – add intergroups we have vetted and appear to be following traditions and what is important to us

3 – we could add everybody if they request- any other options?

#### PAI - Development or review of pamphlets -

Motion made by Julie District 6 DCM that our Delegate make a floor action at the 2024 General Service Conference to Rescind approvals for development of new or revision of pamphlets. Approve new pamphlets or revisions to existing pamphlets based upon whether a pamphlet will accomplish what personal contact does not or cannot Seconded by Jeff

Julie DCM 6 presented PAI stating District 6 wants to see all spending stopped for now until the Reserve fund is brought back up- District 6 feels we need to stop producing pamphlets for now, we don't need pamphlets to do 12<sup>th</sup> step work.

#### Discussion

-Archivist – researched this - Pat C. who brought AA to St. Cloud, Hibbing

#### **Volume XLII Issue 3**

May/June 2024

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Page 6

Created 1982

lewsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

area didn't use a pamphlet-Bernard Smith spoke of over integration-presentation on Integration or Over integration listed on Area 35 website under downloads. Pamphlets are promoting not attracting- we need to do the work not pamphlets

-GSR thought it's 2 issues one is talking costs the other is talking no pamphlets – what's the cost going to be to stop process of pamphlets then restart? -Committee Chair questioning how we can approve overspending our Area Budget but not okay with GSO overspending theirs?

-felt this was against pamphlets not about money

-Clarification needed on Motion—stated 2 issues rescinding now past approval of pamphlets and now approving or reapproving pamphlets based upon the judgement of whether it promotes or attracts-

-Past Delegate – not opposed to this idea but opposed to the process- this is circumventing the process of Agenda items our Delegate could be called out of order. Process for Floor Actions page 167 of Service Manual – thought we needed to follow the process

-Clarification asked from Chair- if Area wanted to follow correct procedure, they would submit this Proposed Agenda Item to the Committee? Yes, PAI's need to go through the Committee process first

-DCM of District \_\_ this district is generally in favor but was in opposition of the floor action- need more clarification- in favor of the PAI going through regular process

Motion FAILED

#### PAI - Spending Moratorium -

Motion made by Julie DCM District 6 to have our Delegate make a floor action to the 2024 Conference to Place a moratorium on spending on projects that have been or will be approved by GSC until all payables are current and prudent reserves are returned to the predefined amount. Then release approved agenda items for action based on available funding – seconded by Ken K.

Julie DCM District 6 presented PAI stated we need to stop spending moneystop payments of everything until Prudent reserve back up. Discussion -

-A GSR asking would our delegate be ruled out of order as a floor action – should this be a PAI for next year using the proper process?

-Alt DCM, wouldn't we need to have this put together by June to have it brought back to our Districts/ Groups to vote on for a final vote at the August ACM? -- Chair - YES

-Past Delegate- the thought is great however contracts already in place may then be stopped - would we be opening ourselves up legally for lawsuits – Slow down/Step back

-GSR questioned if this is the first time we tapped into our Reserve? - No-GSR would like more background information to bring back to the groups **Motion Fails** – **Minority Opinion**- pamphlets do not move- disagrees with spending money to make special pamphlets- pamphlets don't get people sober-

**Point of Order-** only people voting in the minority can speak to the motion if they have new information to report- If someone from Majority wants to change their vote, they can call for revote-

GSR states GSO is spending money we don't have- who is at the bottom of the triangle, who is at the Top? It seems upside down- District 6 is using the Power of the Purse as they don't feel heard on many issues including the PLBB. Encouraged sending letters to GSO and using the Power of the Purse

#### Suggested Floor Motion for World Service Meeting -

Motion made by Tom District 9 for our Delegate to make a Floor action at the 2024 GSC "At the World Service Meeting in Oct 2024, the World Service Delegates be given the right to vote on the following issues: 1. The A.A. Preamble 2. The Plain Language Big Book 3. The Grapevine App is available to AA worldwide. Motion Seconded by Bobbi GSR Hibbing

Tom presented Floor Motion stating this was a PAI in 2023 from Areas 13 & 29 the GSB Trustees International Committee made decision not to include this item as a Conference Agenda Item- The PAI stated the Plain Language Big Book and AA Preamble as examples of items that affects A.A. World Wide not just the US/Canada Structure and Delegates World Wide should be given the right to vote on these important decisions.

#### Discussion

-A past Delegate stated the World Service Meeting (WSM) is a separate conference meeting- Delegates from other General Service Structures from around the World get together and discuss their own issues- doesn't believe we have a say in what the WSM discusses.

-We need to ask everyone not just our Conference- AA Is Worldwide and we need to ask Delegates from around the world

-Things seem to have slip through the cracks and move quickly- AA generally works slowly but it doesn't feel like it lately since Covid **Motion FAILED** -

#### PAI to Amend Charter-

Motion made by Tony GSR District 8 to support a PAI to Add Changing any of the Founder's Writings to the Conference Charter- Motion Seconded by Rory

Steve L put together a rough draft PAI together that we add to our Current Conference Charter under #3 that AAWS and Grapevine Publications of our Founder's writings do not have any contextual changes to the writings. This includes but is not limited to the AAWS publications of the 12x12, As Bill Sees It, AA Comes of Age, Our Great Responsibility, Problems Other than Alcohol and Let's be friendly with our friends etc... For Grapevine Publications Language of the Heart, the Best of Bill, as well as any archival writings of our founders like Bill W., Dr. Bob, Tiebout etc...

Since one Conference is not binding on another this would put a pause on all hasty decisions which are based on generational and cultural differences etc.

Four different past advisory actions were overturned at the 71<sup>st</sup> conference - we want to prevent this from happening again by adding these Founder's Writings to the Conference Charter-

#### **Discussion -**

-should this include changing back the changes to  $12 \times 12$ ? - No, this is nothing to do with past actions – only Future changes to any Founder's Writings-Should we add translations? -

Motion PASSED- Minority Opinion- DCM- they should change the 12 x 12 back to the original before any more are printed-

#### Meeting Times at Assembly -

Motion made by Bud M to move the Start Time on Saturdays to 9:00am – seconded by Julie GSR District 13

#### **Discussion** -

-understands the suggestion however to save money some travel Saturday mornings this may create barrier to that

-Area PI Chair – drives long distance and leaves Saturday mornings to save Area money from having to come Friday evenings. Likes the 10:00 am on Saturday and also 9:00 am on Sundays – keep it as is
Motion FAILS

Motion made by Terry P. Area Webmaster to approve purchase of Microsoft Office 365 for Past Delegates being asked to work on Ad Hoc Committees- Seconded by Bud M.

Terry explained that we are asking Past Delegates to be on Committees they need to have access to the files on Office 365- Cost would be about \$3 per month each or \$36 per year for 6-8 people.

Motion PASSED

#### Voting Rights for Archivist/Sound Tec positions-

Mike U. Area Literature brought for discussion to make the Area 35 Archivist and Area 35 Audio Sound Tech eligible to vote at the Area 35 Assemblies and Area 35 Committee Meetings (ACM'S) To be discussed and voted on at Fall Assembly

-Mike presented points this would address - the lack of equal participation at Area 35 Events

-Some research presented- Past Actions Book Archives- 12/3/17 Area Committee - Area 35 created an appointed, non-voting, audio engineer position-

-10/8/2017 Area Committee Brad I. stepped down after serving 10 years as Archivist and 20 years as PA Technician. Brad suggested Archivist and PA positions be divided into two separate positions-

-07/28/91 Motion passed Area Archives Chair will have vote on the Area Committee and Archivist will not-

-The A.A. Service Manual: quoted Concept 4 "Right of Participation" and others

#### Discussion -

-concerned adding 2 more non GSR voting members- We have 15 Area Committee Officers and Chairs voting- We have approximately 24 total Area Committee Officers, Chairs and DCM's - GSR's should be more than the Officers, Chairs and DCM's-Fall Assembly 2 years ago there were only 17 GSR's - If we want the Groups' conscience we need to limit our voting members who are not GSR's.

-How many other Chairs have voting rights? Chairs of committees have the voting rights; Archivist is part of the Archives Committee where Archives Chair has the vote

-Pro/Con for next ACM?

-These people do have a vote through their GSR at their home group -Past Delegate with Background Information- Northern Light started out as non-voting position as well as Web Master they are 2-year positions -Archivist and Audio are non-rotating lifetime positions and are different tha

Archivist and Audio are non-rotating lifetime positions and are different than other positions

-Bring this back to your groups for discussion

Business ended at 10:45 Sunday Calendar of Events - See Northern Light

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIR AND DCM REPORTS**

#### WEBMASTER - TERRY P

Hello,

Since the last ACM not too much has transpired. Several items were added to the calendar, along with some updates to the calendar of events. The treasurer needed receipts for hosting and equipment from last year for tax preparation, which I provided. New license was added for our sound tech. Billing information was updated for our Office 365 and hosting subscriptions. Submitted a warranty claim for the Secretary's computer and received a new one to be delivered to the assembly. There were other various questions and concerns answered that I won't go into detail on. Thanks, Terry P.

#### NORTHERN LIGHT – JENNIFER T

Greetings, I attended the West Central Regional Conference in Minot and enjoyed hearing the voice of our minority members. I was able to participate in an online Plain Language Book presentation where I learned the background and process.

We heard from our printer that we can continue printing the Norther Light at the non-profit price. I have a Grapevine archives subscription for two years if anyone is looking for archived writings.

I have corrections to DCMs in the next printing of the Northern Light. I apologize to the districts that were not updated I the last printing. I have had a request for larger flyers. Please let me know if there is other content you would like to see.

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Created 1982 Page 7

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

#### **DISTRICT 3 – MELVIN S**

District 3 meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month in Perham at noon at 43452 County Hwy. 34.

We had about 18 people in attendance at the last meeting. I attended the WCRAA in Minot, ND with our Alternate DCM and Literature chair. The information we gathered helped in our understanding of the agenda items which we went through at our March district meeting. The explanation of the Plain Language translation of the Big Book was helpful, although I wished it would have been done sooner, there was much confusion and misunderstanding within district 3. The group conscious of District 3 is concerned about the spending by GSO and the increasing use of technology to carry the message.

The jail and treatment center meetings are in full swing due to the diligent footwork of many. We are also seeing a few new attendees at the district meeting. I overheard a comment about the district being active in 12 step work which made them want to be a part of the district. This made us feel that we were doing the correct things.

In Service, Melvin S.

#### GROUP RECORDS - PHYLLIS K

I attended a training session on Feb 26 with Margaret Matos at GSO regarding Bulk Uploads. I attended the WCRAASC via Zoom. I also learned how to build websites in WordPress.

Since the January Workshop, I have processed:

- -District Chair Changes-6; GSR/Contact People Changes-37; New DCMs-2; New Groups-5; and 1 Group Closing.
- -I published the DCM list 3 times
- -I emailed all the DCMs again about Unknown Groups at Fellowship Connection (database at GSO) and I know you are working on this issue. We have 35 UNKNOWN GROUPS at this time. Thank you!

Mailing List: Only 6 undeliverable copies for \$4.80 for this past mailing.

When you submit information for GSRs and District Chairs, I need: Group Name, Meeting Place, Group Number if you have it, Day and Time of Meeting, Person's Name, Position, EMAIL, Mailing Address, Phone #, Digital or mail for kit

I can't do anything at Fellowship Connection without an email, if a person doesn't have one, I have to forward that to GSO to process. If you have one, please don't forget to include it.

Thanks, and In Service, Phyllis K.

#### <u>CPC – MARY S</u>

My name is Mary S., Area 35 CPC Committee Chair, home district is District 16, Grand Rapids.

I am new to this position, but I held this position at the District level the past 4 years. CPC and Public Information met together yesterday, and Randy has reported most of what we discussed. I enjoyed listening to what the Districts are doing for PI/CPC.

I attended West Central Zoom in my sewing room. In District 16, I was asked if I would help present at a PI Luncheon. District 16 had been having these luncheons yearly until Covid shut them down. So, I was pleased to be asked to help out.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 35. Mary S.

#### DISTRICT 18 - RICK A

Alt –DCM Present No report provided for minutes

#### DISTRICT 15 - FRED T

My name is Fred and I'm an alcoholic, DCM for District 15.

I attended the West Central Regional AA service conference and have shared that information\_with groups and individuals. The hospitality room was AWESOME!!!

We now have the Grapevine Chair filled. Erica gave away past issues and talked up Grapevine at our Stearns County Roundup event, which was well attended with 145 attendees. Marc, Area 35 Archives Chair, set up a display for us. Laura from Al anon Public Outreach was also there with her display.

A new meeting was started "The Wonder Women of Paynesville" Wednesdays at 4:00pm. at the Paynesville Outreach Center 117 West James Street Paynesville, right next to the laundromat, I'm told. They have a GSR, and an Alt GSR signed up.

I am continuing to visit groups in the district presenting them with updated treasurer addresses, GSR pamphlets and safety. I have gotten to about half of them. It's come to my attention that some of the large print Big Books we have are missing some 30 pages. It goes from page 64 and jumps to page 97. You may want to check your inventories. I have let Mike, Area 35 Literature Chair, know about this as well as AAWS.

The Womens' Broad Highway group is putting on a traditions workshop May 4, 10:30-3:00 at the Willmar Alano, Rich s. from Glencoe explains how to apply AA Traditions in all areas of your life.

In service, Fred T.

#### LITERATURE – MIKE U

Greetings everyone,

I'm Mike U. alcoholic, and your area literature chair. At the spring assembly in our Grapevine/literature committee meeting, we had 12 in attendance. Some districts wanted to know what the cost was for printing of the pamphlets and others wanted to know about where to get a price list or an order book catalog. At this time GSO does not have a catalog available and if you want a price list you can get it online at aa.literature.org.

Since the workshop, I attended the WCRAASC in Minot, ND where I felt that we as an area are not alone in wanting GSO to stop spending money on pamphlets that we do not need.

The late Bernard B Smith, nonalcoholic, then chairperson of the board of trustees and one of the Architects of the Conference structure answered that question superbly in his opening talk at the 1954 meeting. "We may not need a General service conference to ensure our own recovery. We do need it to ensure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room. We need it to ensure the recovery of a child being born tonight, destined for alcoholism. We need it to provide, in keeping with our twelfth step, a permanent haven for all alcoholics who, in the ages ahead, can find in AA. That rebirth that brought us back to life. We need it because we, more than all others, are conscious of the devastating effect of the human urge for power and prestige which we must ensure can never invade AA. We need it to ensure AA against government, while insulating it against anarchy; we need it to protect AA against disintegration while preventing over integration. We need so that Alcoholics Anonymous, and Alcoholics Anonymous alone, is the ultimate repository of its twelve steps, its twelve traditions, and all its services. We need it to ensure that changes within A.A. come only as a response to the needs and wants of all A.A., and not of any few. We need it to ensure that the doors of the halls of A.A. never have locks on them, so that all people for all time who have an alcoholic problem may enter these halls unasked and feel welcome. We need it to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous never asks of anyone who needs us what his or her race is, what his or her creed is, what his or her social position is". We deal with Alcohol and Alcohol alone.

I would like to remind all Districts that I am available for any service you need help with. Also, for all you new GSRs, the pamphlet The A.A. Group Where it all Begins, has loads of information one of the best pamphlets GSO puts out.

Thank you for letting me serve, Mike U.

#### **DISTRICT 12 – RICHARD G**

So grateful to see several new GSR's at March District meeting, anxious to discuss Conference Agenda items (at least twice as much and represented groups that haven't been there for a long time).

DULYPAA Rep also there and will continue as well as donate to the general service structure.

Our Corrections Committee continues to put meetings into St. Louis and Douglas County jail and recently added the Federal Prison. Our Veterans Outreach is having more success with our District Website card (complete with QR code).

Our updated District Pamphlet is near completion and is aimed at existing groups and will be distributed to as many groups as possible. Yours in Service, Rich G.

#### **DISTRICT 5 - CHAD 0**

#### Hello

Chad O. here, District 5 DCM, our District meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm, we meet at Trinity Lutheran church in Princeton. Our district is working hard to get additional volunteers to go into our County jails, and it is paying off, we had 13 people, 8 men and 5 women attend an orientation session for Sherburne County to bring in person meetings back into the jail, we have not been in person there in about a decade, great work by all involved from laying the groundwork, to all who carried the message to recruit the volunteers, and to the volunteers who stepped up for this awesome service work.

Our District meetings are going well, with very good attendance, we are even getting some new GSR's! It's awesome to see the participation from all.

District 6 invited us to the Isanti Alano club on March 16th as they were hosting our delegate Diane R. to discuss some of the agenda items for this year's General Service Conference, several of our GSR's were able to attend along with other members from our district, a big thank you to Diane for taking the time to travel down and present the information, it was informative and we had very good discussions. A huge thank you to Julie N. DCM with District 6 and the rest of the crew in District 6 for hosting us......Again, you're all awesome over there, we appreciate it It really does take a village.

Yours in Service, Chad O.

#### **DISTRICT 16 – DAVE C**

District 16 is doing quite well; we have all our Chairs filled except Alt. DCM. Wednesday the 3rd we went through the agenda items so I would know how to vote to send our Districts thoughts on the conference agenda items. We are looking at putting on a founders' day program again this year, no date has been set as of yet. Also, we hope to have a public information breakfast or lunch this fall. I was asked to set up a time to have Delegate Diane R come over to give her conference report. Our treasury is looking fairly good, and we are thankful to the groups for that. Yours in service Dave C.

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Created 1982 Page 8

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

(Continued from page 7)

#### TREATMENTS – KYLE H

Present- No report given for minutes

#### **DISTRICT 6 – JULIE N**

Hello, from district 6.

We here in district 6 are finally settling into our new positions. Each of the new people are getting excited about their position. We have treatment chair talking to treatments and finding groups to help with speaker. CPC/Pi is getting things together with pamphlets to reach out to the senior centers and has had a table set up at the local college. Corrections chair has been involved with statewide corrections and also getting involved with two county jails.

We have 1800 pamphlets we have been carrying around from year to year and we are wondering what to do with them. I guess we do an inventory fact finding and get rid of them.

We had our delegate out to share agenda items with our tri- districts 11 and 5, we had a wonderful turnout with great discussion we did pass the basket and sent money into the area to set off cost for our delegate's travel. We had Mark come to District 6 with two different PAI and our district was unanimous with the vote proposal agenda items.

We're getting excited to set up our first tailgate this year. Thank you for allowing me to serve godspeed get fired up Julie N.

#### **DISTRICT 7 – JESS S**

Greetings from District 7!

Our district meets the third Thursday of each month, in the basement of First Congregational Church in Brainerd (415 Juniper St), at 7 pm. In March, we held a potluck before our meeting & Diane, our Area 35 Delegate visited us to present on 74<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference Agenda Items. There were many in attendance, the questions & discussion were great.

Vickie, our Corrections Chair has been working to spread the word about the CTCP program in our district. We are working closely with Mark, Area Corrections Chair, to attend transition fairs in Area Correctional Facilities & are excited about the opportunity. She will also be representing AA at the Crow Wing Co Jail Transition Fair in May. Chris, our CPC/PI Chair has been distributing the new District 7 business cards. They are now in the Crow Wing Co. Sheriffs Dept., Brainerd Police Dept., St. Joseph Medical Center ER, Crow Wing Co Social Services and North Memorial Ambulance Service, Crosby Hospital & Crosby Police Dept. There are a few more places to get them to yet & he has also discussed with these facilities the possibility of providing more literature, such as pamphlets, to these places as well. The feedback has been positive, so we're excited about that, too! Tim, our Web manager, has gone above & beyond his position; in working to sort out which AA groups in our district are still active, as far as the schedules on the district & area websites, he has found that our paper schedule may need a major update as well. He has status updates on several questioned groups & we will continue working on this for both our District and Area Group Rec-

We are still working in collaboration with District 18 to put on a weekend long Big Book Study event. After having to cancel last January, we are on track to host this event in January 2025. Watch the flyer & join us! See you in June at the ACM

#### ARCHIVIST - MARC N

Hello, I am an alcoholic, my name is Marc, and I will be your archivist for at least the next two years. Here are my thoughts at the 2024 Spring Assembly: In March I attended the WCRAASC via zoom, neither my computer nor I snoozed. The high points for me were the talks by Tom and Ken on Sunday morning. There were also archive exhibits at the Big Ole Roundup and the Stearns County Roundup. The archive exhibit can be available by request for any AA event.

At the 2022 Spring Assembly the need to relocate the archive materials was discussed and the assembly approved the lease of an office front in Aitkin, MN. This is about two blocks from our recent ACM location. The cost was \$500 beginning in May 2022 and increasing \$25 every year for five years. A group of volunteers moved the archive materials from Fargo to Aitkin, a 16' enclosed trailer was used. A brief time later the archive committee and a few volunteers began unpacking boxes, we still have not completed this task. There is a need for at least two 3'x6' bookcases so that a few boxes of books can be unloaded.

Now in 2024 I, the archivist along with the archives committee need the input of AA members, groups, and GSRs to tell us about your desires for archives during the next two years. Please send your thoughts to the archivist at either the email address or the physical address shown in the Northern Light newsletter. In the meantime, I will continue to present exhibits. Efforts are ongoing to preserve the collection of cassette tapes and phonograph records to digital format. I do have a couple of new poster boards. I am continuing to work on power point presentations that can be posted on the area website and presented with the archive exhibits.

We welcome visitors to archives after ACMs and on the third Sunday every month from 12:00 noon to 4:00 PM, visitors are welcome by appointment too. Volunteers are always welcome to help with archive activities. Thank You for this opportunity to serve. Marc

#### ARCHIVES – CATHY R

Much to my dismay I am recovering from major colon surgery. I have another 6 weeks to go. My archives chair will go undone. I apologize to area 35. Come June I expect to be back in service. Cathy R.

#### DISTRICT 11 – KATHY M

Good Morning, Kathy DCM District 11 alcoholic.

We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Peace Lutheran Church in Finlayson. We rotated roles in the District, and everyone has dived right in to assume those roles. We have our Treatment, Archives, Grapevine and Literature chairs unfilled. We ordered and received a QR code stamp and have used it to stamp business cards for Mark the Statewide Corrections Chair to hand out at transition fairs. We will also be using them to stamp pamphlets that we will pass out at our tailgates.

I developed a committee to create a bullet point list of our service position roles and benefits to pass out at tailgates as a quick reference. We will be getting together monthly to go through the service manual.

Our tailgates will start back up this month. Our Treasurer is busy sending thank you cards to groups that have sent contributions to District.

I attended the WCRC in Minot ND. WHY NOT? And learned a lot about the agenda items to take back to the GSR's. There were many in attendance from District 11!

We were invited to attend the Agenda item presentation by our Delegate and again was able to gain even more insight. We had amazing food and fellowship!

I distributed survey questions about the Founder's writings. We updated our meeting times booklet. I really like the 365-email account. I know where anything related to us is in one spot!

We hold Round Robins in our District with amazing food, speakers, and fellowship. We had up to 65 in attendance at one of the events. We also have a group that attends a bowling or cards evening every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month in Sandstone. We have had web problems but have some suggestions for solutions.

Thank you for letting me serve.

#### CORRECTIONS - MARK R

I attend, when possible, the weekly International Corrections Meetings.

As our 2024 DOC Transition Fairs begin, I will again be working on new CTCP requests (INSIDE) looking to find Temporary Contacts for Men & Women being released back into their communities. All Area 35 Corrections Chairs and past volunteers, I will be contacting you to find volunteers for the 2024 CTCP Requests!

Monthly, I Chair the Statewide Corrections Committee meetings on the 1st Wednesday of the month. We just had our April meeting this past Wednesday, April 6. Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 1, 2024, starting at 6:00pm.

I attended the West Central Regional Service Conference in Minot, ND. It was a great conference and I met many of my counterparts from the other Areas in Wyoming, Montana, Nebraska, Iowa, North & South Dakota!

I have started to assist some of our new Area 35 Corrections Chairs get started in their new endeavors. I would like to welcome our new Area 35 District Corrections Chairs; Paul H (District 3), Carter L (District 5), Kenny R (District 6), Vicki Z (District 7), Ricco R (District 9), Gary H (District 11), John D (District 13), Lucy K (District 15), Adam C (District 16), and Mike L (District 18).

Reminder, new District Corrections Chairs, please get your contact information to Phylis K (Group Records) so she can get your information to GSO, and you will get your "Welcome" kits!

God Bless you all! Yours in service, Mark R.

#### AREA 35 SPRING ASSEMBLY ACTION CHAIR COMMITTEE RE-PORT - CORRECTIONS

We had 9 in attendance. We opened with The Serenity prayer and introductions. We then followed by sharing about what is going on in our Districts and Corrections facilities, then ended with Responsibility Statement.

Melvin S. (District 3 DCM & Action Committee Chair): Fargo/Moorhead Intergroup has gone behind A.A. and District 3 and is taking their own meetings into Clay County jail as an OUTSIDE entity representing A.A. Paul H Corrections Chair and the D3 Alt-DCM are actively have volunteers and themselves, taking A.A. meetings into Becker, Ottertail, and Wadena County Jails! To date, they do not have women taking meetings Inside.

Gary H. (District 11 Corrections Chair): Currently have volunteers taking A.A. meetings into MCF-Moose Lake, MCF-Willow River, MCF-Rush City, and Sandstone Federal prisons. Kanabec County jail is still closed to Outside Programs. Gary is alone in taking A.A. meetings into Pine County Jail on M/W/F. He is also alone in taking meetings into MCF-Rush City. If anyone is interested in helping volunteer at MCF-Rush City or Pine County Jail, please contact me!

**Peggy M.** (District 13 DCM): District 13 has 3 facilities – MCF St Cloud Prison, Benton County Jail, and Stearns County Jail. 2 A.A. members from the St Cloud Alano have been taking men's & women's meetings into Ben-

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Created 1982

Page 9

ton County Jail. Currently, there are 3 women ready to go into Stearns County Jail and are waiting 3-4 men to get through orientation. Mark R has helped startup an A.A. meeting at MCF-St Cloud and has 6 volunteers going in there every Thursday at 6:15-7:15pm! Mark is working to hand things off to John D. our new D13 Corrections Chair. Peggy received a CTCP request from Mark for a woman being Released into the St Cloud area from MCF Shakopee Women's Prison. Peggy successfully corresponded with her and shared an absolutely wonderful spiritual experience she had with this request! Peggy reported the St Cloud Alano Club has been experiencing Homeless persons (Men) hiding in the bathroom during meetings and then sleeping in the BLDG overnight. They have actually come into meetings as well and have been taking leftover cookies and such. Many women are now afraid to come to meetings.

### EVERYONE, BE CAUTIOUS ABOUT SECURITY AND REPORT SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE OR BEHAVIOR!

Cathy (District 6 GSR): Takes meetings into Isanti County Jail. There is a group of 4 men and 3 women who have been volunteering to do this. Monday is work release. Thursdays is inside for men & women. Kenny R, the new D6 Corrections Chair, is working on starting A.A. meetings in Chisago County Jail. Cathy reported an incident where someone had brought the District Meeting list into Isanti County Jail, and it had PERSONAL information on it! A Sex Offender, who was Inside Isanti, got a hold of it and started to call Cathy.

### DO NOT BRING ANYTHING INSIDE JAILS OR PRISONS WITH PERSONAL INFORMATION ON IT!

**Sally L**. (District 8 Alt-DCM): Sally joined our Break-Out session since D8 does not have a Corrections Chair at this time. She was interested in knowing more about Corrections Service work. Welcome Sally! Thistle Dew and Virgina City Jail are in D8. GWEN (District 8 GSR):

**Gwen** joined with Sally and was just here to listen and learn as well. Welcome Gwen!

**Jessica S.** (District 7 DCM): Vicki Z. is the new D7 Corrections Chair. A.A. meetings are being brought into Aitkin County and Crow Wing County Jails. Jessica S. will be attending the MCF-Willow River #1 Transition Fair with Mark R on Tuesday, April 16, 2024! Jessica S. will also be attending the Crow Wing County Transition Fair. Ricco R. (District 9 Corrections Chair): Since D9 had no Corrections Chair, Ricco stepped into the Open Position!

**Ricco** is starting to take A.A. meetings into TOGO. Ricco has helped with the CTCP and is hoping to meet up soon with a man he has been corresponding with from MCF-ST Cloud Prison! Ricco has also volunteered to attend the MCF-Moose Lake Prison Transition Fair again this year – Thanks Ricco!! Ricco is also a member of the SWCC.

**Mark R**. (Area 35 Corrections Chair): Three weeks ago, started A.A. meetings for the 2nd Treatment Group at MCF St Cloud Prison on Thursdays. At this time, I have 6 volunteers and will be handing this off to John D, the new D13 Corrections Chair to facilitate!

A Big THANK YOU to Jessica S (D7 DCM), Ricco R (D9 Corrections Chair), and Mike U (Area 35 Literature) for volunteering to attend one of our 2024 MCF Transition Fairs! I will be contacting DCM's and Corrections chairs when we start receiving new CTCP INSIDE requests from the MCF 2024 Transition Fairs! Planning the SWCC 2024 Corrections Workshop – more to come on Date & Time!

Yours in Service, Mark R.

#### Area 35 Spring Assembly, (SWCC) Chair Report - Mark R

Please consider getting more involved in Corrections Work in A.A., attend our next SWCC meeting to see what we are doing across the State of Minnesota! I attended the April 3, 2024, SWCC meeting via Zoom. We had our largest attendance in over a year with 13 in attendance!

Welcome to our new Area 35 District Correct Chairs; Paul H (District 3), Ricco R (District 9), Adam C (District 16), Carter L (District 5), Kenny R (District 6), and John D (District 13) who attended this month's SWCC meeting!

We had discussions around updating the SWCC Guidelines since Area 36 is not participating. Aaron A suggested we create a Sub-Committee to form new guidelines and present them at the next monthly meeting. Aaron A, Joe S, and Mark R will make up the Sub-Committee. The group also talked about changing the term of the SWCC Chair from 2 years to 1. The Group Conscience decided we should leave the term at 2 years. We also discussed transparency and if we should send our minutes or Mark's SWCC report to Area 36 as well. Further discussion is necessary on this as SWCC has never published minutes.

The 2024 Minnesota DOC Transition Fairs are upon us! Thanks so much to Jessica S (DCM District 7) who along with myself will be volunteering at the Willow River #1 Transition Fair April 16, 2024! Another big "Thank You" to Mike U (Area 35 Literature Chair) who is volunteering with Gail S of Area 36 (Minneapolis Intergroup) at the MCF-St Cloud Transition fair May 15, 2024. Would also like to thank Ricco R (District 9 Corrections Chair) for volunteering again at the Moose Lake Transition fair later this year on September 17, 2024!

### **2024 Facility Transitions Fair Dates**Transitions Fair Date

Facility	Transitions Fair Date	Facility App Deadline
MCF-Willow River #1	April 16, 2024,	March 26, 2024
MCF-Red Wing	April 23, 2024,	April 2, 2024
MCF-Shakopee	April 30, 2024,	April 9, 2024
MCF-St. Cloud	May 15, 2024,	April 24, 2024
MCF-Faribault	June 12, 2024,	May 22, 2024
MCF-Lino Lakes	August 8, 2024, J	July 18, 2024
MCF-Moose Lake	September 17, 2024,	August 27, 2024
MCF-Rush City	October 9, 2024,	September 18, 2024
MCF-Willow River #2	October 15, 2024,	October 1, 2024
MCF-Stillwater	November 13, 2024,	October 23, 2024

The SWCC meets on the 1st Wednesday of each Month. Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 1, 2024
Join Zoom Meeting ID: 816 0729 1607 Passcode: 261258

Humbled & Honored to Serve you, Mark R.

#### **DISTRICT 9 – TOM T**

Tom T.-DCM for District 9, my home group is the Monday Night Downtown Group, Hibbing.

District 9 meetings are on the last Sunday of the month unless that Sunday falls on a holiday. We meet at the Hibbing Alano Club at 6:00pm. I have been able to attend several meetings in our District that I don't usually have time to attend and found it is nice to see some fellow AA's that I haven't seen for a while as well as meet many new ones. We had a new meeting start up in Goodland, it is new to District 9 but not brand new because it was formerly held in District 16.

I took the opportunity to discuss with the groups the upcoming Agenda Items as well as the importance of having a GSR to represent their group. I also attended the Area's Winter Workshop in January, the Area Committee Meeting in February and the West Central Regional Forum in March.

We have been able to fill all but two District offices so far and that is the Archives Chair and CPC. We have had good attendance and input from both the GSR's and the District Chair's. We have several new GSR's that are fired up about serving their groups.

The Agenda Items have been our District's main topic, and the discussion has been exhilarating and gratifying. I will be giving the highlights of the input in this Assembly, to the best of my ability. Our Delegate, Diane R., was very helpful and available when we invited her to go over, in person, the Agenda Items with our District 9 GSR's and Officers. I also attended the District 8 Agenda Items meeting as well as an Agenda Item meeting that was put on by our Delegate, Diane, on Zoom.

Of course, our Districts main overall focus is on reaching the still suffering alcoholic. So, as we "trudge the road of happy destiny"

I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to serve. Tom T.

#### DISTRICT 8 – JOHN J

Greetings Area 35: I am John J., and I am the District 8 DCM for this rotation. Our monthly district meetings rotate Monday through Friday, and different groups within our district volunteer to host. Our attendance at district meetings continues to increase. Unfortunately, Our Corrections Chair and Archives Chair have stepped down, as well as or Alt. Corrections Chair.

I was able to attend the WCRAASC which I found very informative. After the WCRAASC our District did hold a separate Agenda Items meeting in March. I was also able to attend an outstanding Open Speaker meeting in Gilbert! We have another Open Speaker meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup> in Babbit which I am looking forward to attending. Our Alt. DCM Sally L. has been busy helping to plan the Tri-District workshop with Districts 9 & 16. I am thankful to District 8 for allowing me to serve.

In Service, John J.

#### PUBLIC INFORMATION – RANDY A

Present- No report provided for minutes

#### DISTRICT 4 – JAMES W

No report given

#### GRAPEVINE – TERRY A

Present- No report provided for minutes

#### DISTRICT 1 – JENNIFER Z

Present- No report provided for minutes

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Created 1982 Page 10

#### **DISTRICT 13 – PEGGY MCCUE**

Greetings!

I attended the WCRAASC by zoom in March. Our Alt. Delegate participated in person. I also attended our Delegate's meeting on the Conference Agenda item "Hot topic" in March. Pat M. Alt. Delegate came to District 13, we had a great meeting and discussion on the GSC Agenda items. I was able to gather the group conscious of District 13. We discussed and voted on the two proposals to be ready for the Spring Assembly.

We had our District meeting Monday April 1, 2024. There was great attendance, here are a few highlights.

- 1. Treasurer worked very hard on the District Budget given to GSR to take to the groups.
- 2. Talked about the seven questions and how to get information from the Delegate.
- 3. Reviewed, discussed, and voted on Area budget.
- 4. Set the date for District workshop in June. The groups want a GSR workshop
- 5. We elected a new Corrections Chair, and we are orienting him to his service position. He has connected with Mark R. Area Corrections chair and gave a great report.
- 6. Helping all GSRs get on a District committee.
- 7. All Committee chairs are working hard; PI, Treatment, Literature, Corrections, Treasurer doing the work of the district.

We have verified the unknown groups. And meeting with a few groups. We have a few new GSRs and there are two groups who reported they will or are starting to send contributions to either the Area or District.

We are excited to get out to the groups with our District flyer. Some district members are asking about "Tailgating". We do short educations on the Service Manual during our meeting.

I am very happy we are so strong and moving forward!- Peggy

#### **DISTRICT 21 – JERI SRUR**

Present- no report provided for minutes

#### **GSR SHARING SESSION –**

We had a strong turnout at the GSR Sharing session, last count was at 40 GSRs/Alt GSRs. Going around the room asking what the GSRs main concerns were, we came up with three topics: What is the GSRs responsibilities; How do we get more people at the business /group conscious meeting; and How do we learn about the Agenda Items.

First item we discussed were the responsibilities of the GSR. There were quite a few new GSRs at the assembly, which made this topic important. A list of what the position involves was formed, but to summarize GSRs are the voice of their group. They speak to the District and Area on behalf of their group and in-turn relay information back to their group from the District and Area. It was also suggested to talk to people in service with questions and to look into getting a Service Sponsor.

The second item we discussed was how to get more people involved or at the business/group conscious meeting. It was suggested to make it fun, have potlucks or just food in general (we like our food). Sharing stories and experiences from the assemblies was another idea to talk to people in your group about, show them it can be fun. Announce "hot topics" at the meeting to get people interested in coming or staying for the business/group conscious meeting. Another suggestion was to talk to the people in your group and find out a better time people would be able to meet.

Lastly, we discussed Agenda Items. There was concern from the whole group about the lack of information GSRs had going into this assembly. We discussed where they should be getting this information (DCM should be able to get information out to GSRs). It seems there was also a lack of communication when it came to the agenda items, many people in the group were not aware of the informative meetings the Delegate and Alt Delegate put on. Not many new much about the Northern Lights. Along with that they were not aware they could go on the Area Website and look at the items.

All and all it was a good session. People walked away with a better understanding that if they aren't getting the information they need there are other places they can go to get it. One thing many mentioned is wanting GSR Workshops. This would be very beneficial for our Area to get GSRs informed.

Grateful to be of service, Dennis, GSR

#### **DCM SHARING SESSION**

Opened w/Serenity Prayer & introductions

Prompted possible discussion topics & decided on 3; Developing committees/Tailgating ideas & information/"What is our role as a district?"

#### **Developing committees:**

- -Asking people one on one & discussing duties
- -Discussed a past action where districts drew GSR names out of a hat for committee positions
- -Encourage sponsees to become involved
- -Utilize zoom option
- -Creating flyers & signup sheet for committees

- -Tailgating
- -Going to groups & having information available
- -Making it fun
- -Study groups
- -Visiting inactive groups/outreach
- -Create District Newsletter & email to all groups & disburse to meetings
- -Provide district minutes on website
- -Making a separate committee meeting

#### **Tailgating Ideas & Information:**

- -Bring committee signup sheet with
- -Start at homegroups
- -Collaborate w/other districts
- -Introduce DCM briefly & encourage those w/questions to speak with a district member after the meeting
- -Encourage members less involved to help w/tailgating
- -Talk w/groups about 2 weeks prior & get an approximate head count -Announcing tailgating events at Round Robins and other AA events
- -Discussed tailgating contributions; DCM District 6, Julie explained their current process; it's a free-will donation from members in attendance. Profit reimburses anyone who helped provide the meal, who would like reimbursement. Tailgaters donate the remaining profit to the same meeting they're tailgating for so at the end, the money is a wash & there is no profit left over.

#### "What is our role as a District?":

- -To inform groups & members
- -Hold workshops to inform
- -Bounce ideas off each other, working together
- -Carrying the message/Reaching the still suffering alcoholic
- -As DCM, keep good, open communication w/all members
- -Visiting groups w/o GSRs or contacting people & bringing 'group info change' forms with. Follow up by sending them the information monthly.

#### OFFICER/ACTION CHAIR SESSION

No report provided

#### ASK IT BASKET QUESTIONS

Welcomed Ted S. Past West Central Regional Trustee-

Question 1 – Can we change how we review the Agenda Items? Can we review only Considered items or what GSR's want to review??-

Answer – Discretion of the Delegate how they want to present- Could make a suggestion? It's up to the body of the Assembly how we want to do it-

Question 2 – What do you think about alcoholics who take prescription TCH? is it any different from depression/anxiety meds if prescribed from a doctor? If they are absent from Alcohol, are they considered sober? Answer - I am not a Doctor and have no opinion on it. We have to be pretty careful what we say –in fact Alcoholics Anonymous does not have an opinion on it either. Each person has to decide for themselves and be honest with themselves-

Questions 3 – When discussing agenda items at the Area Assembly, the Delegate gets a general consensus from the floor on how to vote. Why is minority opinion not allowed on a consensus vote? -

Answer – Experience on this – Delegates want to know what the Area thinks. When we have an Area Assembly doing Area Business that's when we are having a discussion on something we are finalizing now in a vote- a minority opinion we want to know as that could change the vote- Going through agenda we are not finalizing anything we are filling our Delegates head with opinions, ideas of what we think- There is nothing final decided-

Question 4 – Where do Conference agenda items originate? does GSO originate agenda items?

Answer – Referred to our AA Service Manual page 42 the section on source of agenda items- "final agenda items for any conference consists of items suggested by individual AA members, Groups, Delegates, Trustees, etc....

Question 5 – Is there any set policy or order for people at the Assembly to speak at the microphone? Or only voting members? Are Committee Chairs and Officers allowed to share their opinions besides the GSR? Aren't they considered part of the group conscience?

Answer – As of right now in our assembly we let anyone come down and share at the microphone but only voting members vote. Opinion - It would be nice if we had more voting members speak at the microphone unless there was a question that needed an answer that we could ask past delegates to give us the answer.

Question 6 – Has the idea of having a contribution button on the Meeting Guide APP to only take money from people that check a box saying they are an alcoholic?

Answer – Not sure? We do take online contributions at GSO – experience shared- we don't accept outside contributions- leery of checking a box to say they are alcoholic, we have no way to verify- also questions of bypassing the service structure by having people contribute directly as this may go around people putting money in their groups' basket and contributing through their home group structure.

Closed out Ask It Basket

Send off to our Delegate Diane-

Ted S. - Closed us out with Responsibility Statement - 12:10pm

Respectfully Submitted, Denise R, Area 35 Secretary

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Created 1982

Page 11

### **AREA OFFICER & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS**

#### **DELEGATE- DIANE R**

Hi Friends.

The 74<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference was held from April 14, 2024 to April 20, 2024. 93 Delegates; 26 Trustees and Non-Trustee Directors; and 15 General Service Office and Grapevine Staff met at the Mariott Hotel in Brooklyn NY. The theme was "Connecting in Love, Unity, and Service." We were extremely busy every day usually starting at 9:00am and going as late as 11:59pm. Presentations included numerous Board Reports and Committee Reports with recommendations and committee considerations.

The Grapevine / La Viña Committee, my committee assignment, met three times and discussed all Grapevine / La Viña Committee agenda items. I met many dedicated A.A. service members and staff from all over the United States and Canada.

GSO is working hard to make translations available for our members who need them in French and Spanish. Translation does take time.

On Saturday we had a memorable trip to Stepping Stones where I sat at Bill's desk in a small building called Witt's End. I saw the map Bill used to mark the locations where new groups formed. Today, Stepping Stones is a non-profit organization and if you plan to go there, you will need a reservation.

Please contact me with a date and time your district would like the Report Back from the conference. During the Report Backs to the Districts, there is a lot to discuss. We will cover advisory actions and have time for your questions. The hard copy Conference Final Report is completed and mailed midto-late summer. A digital, anonymity-protected version of the Conference Final Report is posted to our Area 35 Website when completed.

The financial reporting from the General Service Board had participation by the new independent auditor. The Auditor reported that he reviewed GSO reports and practices and assured the fellowship of an unmodified or "clean" audit opinion on the Consolidated Financial. He saw no liquidity issues for this year or next. He did make six recommendations. There is 6.28 months of operating expenses in the Reserve Fund. The treasurer did not feel that this was issue and believed we are headed toward good funding. All bills are paid and current.

From Grapevine, Our Twelve Steps is a brand-new collection of stories from AA members about the joys and challenges of working the program's Twelve Steps of recovery. Check with our Area 35 Grapevine Chair for this new book.

In Service, Diane R., Area 35 Delegate

#### ALTERNATE DELEGATE-PAT M

Hello Area 35

I am your Alt Delegate and I am an alcoholic. I attended the WCRAASC in Minot North Dakota. I attended all the delegate meetings with our delegate Diane, as an observer. One of the highlights was meeting the rest of the delegates and alternate delegates in person and getting to know the new 74s alternates. I stayed very busy studying the background information on the agenda items. I got this idea at one of the NAAD meetings where an alternate delegate becomes the Delegates shadow, whenever or wherever Diane presented on the agenda items, I would be there. I also had the privilege of presenting the agenda items at District 13, thank you again District 13, that was a wonderful time and I continue to attend NAAD meetings. I am looking forward to attending Delegate meetings with Diane and our new trustee from the West Central region .

I have been working on the Winter workshop. I have narrowed it down as the location to two places in zone 1. I believe I have a guest speaker, more information will be at the next Aiken committee meeting.

Yours and service, your alternate delegate. Pat

#### CHAIR - VICKI R

Greetings!

Since Spring Assembly I've enjoyed several phone conversations with area service members. I've completed the Spring Assembly Attendance and Evaluation Report and completed the June ACM agenda. I created a mechanism to find a date for the ad hoc committees to meet. I also read the 74<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference Committee Considerations and 74<sup>th</sup> GSC Advisory Actions sent out by Diane, our Delegate.

#### SECRETARY – DENISE R

No report given

#### TREASURER – H

Hello Area 35 –

Since Spring Assembly, I've entered the approved budgets into Quickbooks, and continue to record group contributions and pay incoming invoices. Thank you to the groups that have sent in contributions this month! And to those of you that sent in birthday contributions. Our Area finances for April are as follows:

#### 4/1/24 - 4/28/24

Group Contributions \$4,348.05
Birthday Contributions \$108.35
Literature/Other income \$3,774.44
Total \$8,230.84

Total Expenses <u>\$11,358.31</u> Net Income (3,127.47)

Yours in service, Heidi B

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

#### WEBMASTER – TERRY P

No report given

#### NORTHERN LIGHT – JENNIFER T.

Since the spring Assembly, I have updated the DCM's and have the most current list in print. I have helped fill in the open Corrections position with-Filling the Gap contact for District 21.

#### GROUP RECORDS – PHYLLIS K

Hello everyone!

Including what was given to me at the Spring Assembly and since, we have: 37 GSR and Contact People- new and changes; 2 groups registered at Fellowship Connection; 2 different groups added to the Meeting Guide App; 2 District Chair changes; and only 5 undeliverable addresses in the Mailing List.

I added all the group's Contact People to the Mailing List and rechecked all the records so far since January 13, 2024.

I emailed my question for data security, and it was forwarded to Lorna Graham, Sr. Director of Tech Services at AAWS. She writes," NetSuite (our ERP platform) is externally audited to meet all industry leading security standards for protecting credit card and personally identifiable information." FC (Fellowship Connection) is a portal into NetSuite so we are as safe as possible.

I emailed 2 Intergroups to ask questions and asked for a communication system between their entities and ours before listing groups to prevent future snafus (App Support recommendation). Results not in yet.

I printed all the documents from the Meeting Guide App Support site and have them if anyone wants to read them. Interesting...

I understand better why databases have required fields. There are more than one person listed with the same name. The address, phone, and email help to differentiate which 'Mike Smith' is which.

Thanks, Phyllis K

#### <u>LITERATURE – MIKE U</u>

No report given

#### PUBLIC INFORMATION – RANDY A

No report given

#### TREATMENT - KYLE H

No report given

#### CPC - MARY S

No report given

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Created 1982

Page 12

### **AREA OFFICER & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS**

(Continued from page 11)

ARCHIVIST - MARC N

Hey GSRs, what do you want our archives to be?

The biggest expense of Area 35 is the archive repository rent. We have a lease until May of 2027. It might be possible to reduce the rent by going to storage only and not a visitor-friendly display area. Further digitizing would be required and destruction of physical media (paper files, cassette tapes, and phonograph records) after digitizing. There are also many things in our storage that are digitized and available from other sources (Other area's newsletters, GSO newsletters, Box 459, Grapevine magazines).

As I convert the phonograph records and cassette tapes to digital format, I am stuck with a decision of whether to keep the vinyl records and cassette tapes or to dispose of them either by return to donor, sale to a collector, or destruction. These do have a shelf life that is nearing an end point, they might not remain useable for much longer.

I am selecting poster boards, magazine covers/articles, and other items that do not have anonymity issues to use as parts of power point presentations. These will be shown with archive displays and published on our area website. These too have limited useful life left, so a decision with dispositioning will need to be made.

We received more Grapevine magazines to further our collection. There are still many missing, if you have some to donate, contact the archivist for a list of the missing ones. We also have many duplicates of past issues, if you have use for any of these just ask.

We are doing an open house at the archives repository, the 3rd Sunday every month, 12:00 noon to 4:00 PM. Please offer feedback. Remember the archives are open for a while after ACM, please stop by. Visitors are welcome by appointment.

In Service, Archivist, Marc

#### ARCHIVES - CATHY R

No report given

#### GRAPEVINE - TERRY A

No report given

#### **CORRECTIONS - MARK R**

I just want to extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to A.A. members in Area 35 Districts, and Groups, who are presently taking regular meetings into County Jails and Minnesota Correctional Facilities. Many hours are spent organizing meetings, working with jails to get volunteers approved, and managing rosters of volunteers!

It is a sincere privilege to work with all of these dedicated A.A. members.

We continue to look for OUTSIDE A.A. members who would be willing to work on CTCP requests from INSIDE A.A. members looking to find Temporary Contacts. As an OUTSIDE Volunteer, you will correspond with these A.A. Members less fortunate than us, and when released, bring them to A.A. meetings and help introduce them to the AA Community in the area they are going to be released.

I attended the Willow River Transition Fair #1 April 16, 2024 with Jessica S. (District 6 DCM). It was a great opportunity and a wonderful time to share fellowship with Jessica! We received 21 CTCP requests during the day — District Corrections Chairs & DCMs, I will be forwarding these on to you looking for Volunteers to be Temporary Contacts! Thank you so much for Volunteering to attend the Willow River #1 Transition Fair Jessica!

I regretfully report that our Area 36 counterparts who volunteered to attend the MCF-Red Wing Transition Fair were unable to attend and the timing was such that it was too late for us to find replacements. Because of this, we had no representation at this Transition Fair. Please, to future attendees from Area 35, this is a very important commitment and my expectation from our Area is that are volunteers are dedicated and will follow through with their commitments.

I continue to be available to help our Area 35 District Corrections Chairs & DCMs with their respective Corrections opportunities. I continue to work on our Area 35 spreadsheet with information of A.A. members bringing A.A. meetings into any & all County & State Corrections Facilities in Minnesota. If you are a DCM or Corrections Chair please contact me with any information you have regarding this (Member Contacts and Facility Contacts) list.

Monthly, I Chair the Statewide Corrections Committee meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month. Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 1, 2024 starting at 6:00pm via Zoom.

I attended the Spring Assembly April 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> in Crookston. It was great to see everyone there and to again experience democracy without organization in Alcoholics Anonymous!

Reminder, new District Corrections Chairs, please get your contact information to Phylis K (Group Records) so she can get your information to GSO and you will get your "Welcome" kits!

#### Statewide Corrections Committee (SWCC) Chair Report

Our committee continues to work hard to promote A.A. Corrections Service Work throughout the State of Minnesota!

At our April 3, 2024 meeting, the following A.A. Members were in attendance: Paul H. (A35/D3 Corrections Chair), Mark R. (SWCC & A35 Corrections Chair), Ricco R. (A35/D9 Corrections Chair), Aaron A. (A35 Sound/D6 Corrections Member), Melvin S. (A35 Actions Chair-Corrections/D3 DCM). Joseph S. (A36/D15 Corrections Chair), Adam C. (A35/D16 Corrections Chair), Carter L. (A35/D5 Corrections Chair), Kenny R. (A35/D6 Corrections Chair), John D. (A35/D13 Corrections Chair), Lucy K. (A35/D15 Corrections Chair), Mike U. (A35 Literature Chair/D6 Corrections Member)

#### GENERAL SHARING & REPORTS

**JOE S.** - A36, D15 Corrections Chair: Joe goes in with a group taking A.A. meetings into Washington County Saturday nights (2 men's and 1 women's). The county is finally holding new orientation so more volunteers can help out! MCF-Stillwater minimum security meeting Tuesdays-5:30pm & started up a Speaker meeting every Thursday. Oak Park Heights remains closed. MCF-Lino Lakes has meetings the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays for General Population and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday is the TRIAD Treatment program.

**RICCO R.** - Area 35, District 9 Corrections Chair: Ricco is volunteering to assist bringing A.A. meetings into TOGO. District 8 is facilitating these meetings. Ricco has volunteered for the Transition Fair at MCF-Moose Lake.

**PAUL H.** - Area 35, District 3 Corrections Chair: Meetings are still happening at Becker, Hubbard, Ottertail, and Wadena Counties. The Fargo/Moorhead Intergroup has gone behind District 3 and is taking meetings into Clay County jail.

**CARTER L.** - Area 35, District 5 Corrections Chair: Meetings at Mille Lacs County jail still going – need volunteers, hoping to start a women's meeting as well at same time. At Sherburne County will be having orientation finally for new volunteers. Looking to start men's meetings In-Person for 3 units as well as a Women's meeting In-Person for 1 unit. Have 8 men volunteers and 4 women at this time.

**ADAM C.** - Area 35, District 16 Corrections Chair: The facility in District 16 is the Itaska County Jail. A.A. meeting on Thursdays for High Security area & Low Security 6-8pm.

**KENNY R.** - Area 35, District 6 Corrections Chair: A.A. meetings Mondays & Thursdays at the Isanti County Jail. In the works, is a new A.A. meeting at the Chisago County Jail!

**JOHN D. -** Area 35, District 13 Corrections Chair: John has been working with the District 13 DCM, Peggy on getting meetings going at the Stearns County Jail, John has reached out to the Coordinator there. There are men & women volunteers for the Men's & Women's A.A. meeting on Mondays from 6:30pm-7:30pm at Benton County Jail. John has started to work with Mark R and will be taking over facilitating the volunteers as MCF-ST Cloud prison is a District 13 Corrections Facility. Mark has 6 volunteers taking a Thursday A.A. meeting in from 6:15pm-7:15pm. The volunteers meet in the lobby at 5:45pm to be escorted in at 6:00pm!

**MARK R.** - Area 35 Corrections Chair, SWCC Chair: Have started a new A.A. meeting at MCF-St Could! At this time, we have 6 volunteers (men only). This meeting will likely be expanding to the General Population as well! April 16<sup>th</sup> is our first MCF Transition Fair at Willow River – Mark R and Jessica S will be attending

#### **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**SWCC Chair Rotation:** It was discussed by all attendees and decision made to not change the rotation for Chair & Secretary and keep it at 2 years.

**SWCC Chair Position:** It was discussed to allow any A.A. Member interested in Corrections Service work who has more than a few years of experience in Corrections at both the County Jail and State Prison levels to be able to run for the SWCC Chair – therefore, it is not just limited to an Area Chair. The discussion was tabled until the May meeting with everyone asked to review their own thoughts and come back ready to vote at the May meeting.

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Created 1982

Page 13

### **AREA OFFICER & ACTION COMMITTEE NL REPORTS**

(Continued from page 12)

**SWCC Guidelines:** A discussion was started on the Guidelines. Aaron A. mentioned our current guidelines were not what we as a group decided upon last year, and that, someone took it upon themselves to put in their own words what the guidelines would be. As this was not what our Group Conscience decided last year, we will review and discuss the Guidelines and make necessary changes.

Aaron suggested we select a Sub-Committee to create a new set of Guidelines and come back at the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting with a document for review and a Group Conscience. All attendees were in favor of this action! Mark R., Aaron A., and Joseph S. will be on the Sub-Committee.

**SWCC Minutes:** Previously Aaron A. suggested that the SWCC send meeting minutes off to both Area 35 & Area 36. Mark R. mentioned minutes have never been sent to anyone, that the SWCC is not part of either Area 35 or Area 36. Mike U. mentioned it would be a good idea. Mark R. stated that he has since early last year, provided and SWCC report at the Area 35 ACM's as well as in the Northern Light post Assembly's. Mark mentioned he could send the same report to the Pigeon Newsletter or the Area 36 Chair. This discussion was tabled until the May meeting for further discussion and resolution.

**2024** MCF Transition Fairs: Mark R. and Jessica S. will be attending the Willow River #1 fair. Craig H. & Tracy Jo (Area 36) will be attending the Red Wing Transition Fair April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Shakopee women has been cancelled. Mike U. & Gail S. are attending the MCF-St Cloud Transition Fair May 15<sup>th</sup>! Vicki Z. has volunteered to attend the Lino Lakes Transition Fair August 8th, and Ricco R. Moose Lake September 17<sup>th</sup>. We do not have anyone right now for Faribault June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**2024 SWCC Corrections Workshop:** Mark said he received feedback from Craig H (Area 36 Corrections Chair). Since we ran out of time, this was tabled and we will discuss at the May SWCC meeting. Possible dates – AUG 10, 17, 24, 31 SEP 7, 14, 21, 28 (OCT is out, Area 35 & Area 36 Assembly's) NOV 2, 16 – TOPIC: **What is the CTCP?** 

CTCP: We are still working on the CTCP – Connecting OUTSIDE AA Volunteers with alcoholics INSIDE Minnesota Correctional Facilities who want a Temporary Contact to correspond with and who can help introduce them to the AA Community in the area they are going to be released. The commitment involves corresponding with a person in custody via mail and helping them get to a meeting or two once released. Want to be of service as an AA OUTSIDE Contact? Please contact myself, Mark R .



Share your experience, strength & hope with Area 35 by writing an article for the Northern Light.
We want to hear from you!

Did you have a great time at an Assembly? Is your home group bringing a meeting to a local treatment center or correctional facility? Please tell us about it. Send an email to: northernlight@area35.org.

\*\*All submissions must be approved by the Northern Light committee.\*\*

These questions were originally published in the AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through September 1971. While they were originally intended primarily for individual use, many AA groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion.

#### **The Traditions Checklist**

Tradition One

Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery

depends upon A.A. unity.

- 1. Am I in my group a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive? What about gossip and taking other members' inventories?
- 2. Am I a peacemaker? Or do I, with pious preludes such as "just for the sake of discussion," plunge into argument?
- 3. Am I gentle with those who rub me the wrong way, or am I abrasive?
- 4. Do I make competitive AA remarks, such as comparing one group with another or contrasting AA in one place with AA in another?
- 5. Do I put down some AA activities as if I were superior for not participating in this or that aspect of AA?
- 6. Am I informed about AA as a whole? Do I support, in every way I can, AA as a whole, or just the parts I understand and approve of?
- 7. Am I as considerate of AA members as I want them to be of me?
- 8. Do I spout platitudes about love while indulging in and secretly justifying behavior that bristles with hostility?
- 9. Do I go to enough AA meetings or read enough AA literature to really keep in touch?

Do I share with AA all of me, the bad and the good, accepting as well as giving the help of fellowship?

Tradition Two

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority-a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

- Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? Newcomers? Old-timers?
- 2. Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with AA Twelfth Step jobs or other AA responsibility?
- 3. Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?
- 4. Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?
- 5. Although I have been sober a few years, am I still willing to serve my turn at AA chores?

In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?

To be continued in the next issue....

# NORTHERN LIGHT

Created 1982

Page 14

**2024 Spring Assembly Attendance and Evaluations Summary** 

114 Total Attendance

80 or 66% Voting members 34 or 29.8% Non-Voting Members

Of the 80 voting members:

GSR's: 66% DCM's 14 18% Area Committee Chairs 9 11% Area Officers 4 5%

All attendees by District – voting and non-voting

District	# Attended	% of Total	District	# Attended	% of Total
1	4	4%	11	5	4%
3	2	2%	12	9	8%
4	2	2%	13	13	11%
5	12	11%	15	3	3%
6	14	12%	16	3	3%
7	12	11%	18	5	4%
8	18	16%	21	5	4%
9	7	6%			

#### GSRs (53 total – 16 completed evaluations - 6 First-time attendees)

What part of the assembly was most beneficial?

- **GSR** Orientation
- **Breakout Sessions**
- 11 General Agenda Item Sharing From the Floor
- GSR/DCM Sharing Sessions
- Area Committee Reports
- Old/New Business
- Other (AA Meeting)

In what way did it (they) help?

Discussion and concerns from other groups

Helped me understand AA service structure and the Area/Group conscious of other Districts

Very informative and frustrating

Learning experience, everyone was helpful – it all helped

Hearing other group problems with group conscious, attendance and sharing solutions with each other

Keeps me in the loop – keeps my mind open to new information and the minority voices Directions on role as a GSR – connections with others – spirit of service

Clear understanding

GSR orientation is a good help getting oriented on how to get information and how the process works

Having AA meetings at the Assembly was awesome

So informative – however – a lot of over talking

Knowledgeable - knowing where committee chairs are at

Informational

Do you have any other comments or suggestions for improving our next Spring Assembly?

Maybe a 2 hour dinner break

We need a better-informed Area/District/GSR's

Have expenditures available during sharing for more informed voting, as well as, dates of previous revisions/printings to pamphlets or any other literature

I would support attending a GSR orientation before Spring Assembly, this would better prepare GSRs to know their responsibilities prior to the Assemblies

Staying at 2 minutes and a timer is a big plus when talking to the floor

Cross talk and new chair laughing or smart comments at people's comments at the mic is unreal for someone to do

It would be good if officers could be encouraged to speak clearly and loud enough to hear and understand them, even with a mic. It can be hard to understand them

#### DCMs (6 total evaluations – 0 First-time attendees – 2 Alt DCM)

What part of the assembly was most beneficial?

**GSR** Orientation Area Committee Reports **Breakout Sessions** 2 Old/New Business 3 2 General Agenda Item Sharing From the Floor Other

GSR/DCM Sharing Sessions

In what way did it (they) help?

Always get new ideas @ DCM sharing

Help me get new ideas to help get more of the GSR's active

Enjoy the whole assembly – my favorite parts are the sharing sessions because we get to learn about what others are doing and bounce ·h other

More information than I had before for my groups/district

Got more helpful information for our district

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Created 1982 Page 15

ewsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

1 Area Committee Reports

Other (pro/con discussion, AA meeting)

Old/New Business

2024 Spring Assembly Attendance and Evaluations Summary-Continued

#### Other Positions (14 total – 1 First-time attendees)

What part of the assembly was most beneficial?

- **3** GSR Orientation
- 5 Breakout Sessions
- 6 General Agenda Item Sharing From the Floor
- 0 GSR/DCM Sharing Sessions

In what way did it (they) help?

Info and fellowship

You only learn by showing up

Sharing of ideas/projects

Good discussions

Keeps us current on the topics and concerns of AA

Questions during GSR orientation were great

Fabulous job with agenda items presentation

I learned, I met and stayed sober. Can't get any better than that

It was a great process to see the area discuss and come to an informed decision

I liked hearing other districts views on issues

Received updates from around MN - awesome

Do you have any other comments or suggestions for improving our next Spring Assembly?

Print more agendas, budget info, etc.

Ask people at the mic to stay on topic, especially during agenda items

Should we consider having an inter-group rep position to report on IG activity/communication?

Discuss technology for hybrid options, not just for ACM's & Assemblies bur for hosting WCRegional

Optimize use of time during agenda items

Have equipment working or replaced

Better PA system. Allow people to get the equipment needed to perform their work if this is what the area wants

Some of the rows in the center were too close together, not enough space

Agenda item discussion was way too long, too slow

#### MY GROUP RECORDS



FC Fellowship Connection

Fellowship Connection is where Area registrars enter your group's information directly



Then it can be listed in the Minnesota Meeting Guide APP per GSO guidelines and ad hoc cttee vote 2023



See my group listing

Why did my group become INACTIVE at FC?

The day after the mandatory expiration date arrived, the group dropped into the INACTIVE status. It needs a GSR or Contact Person to reactive.

Why do you and my DCM bug me for Name, Adress, Email, and Phone #?

An email is required to pull up a person and all four items are required to enter a person or group at FC. I need date of 1st meeting for a new group.

Why do you and my DCM bug me for my info?

It takes an email to see if a person is already listed at FC. I can't enter anyone without a NAME, ADDRESS, EMAIL ADDRESS, and PHONE #. No one can be entered by FC without a NAME and ADDRESS.

Is my information safe at FC?

Lorna Graham, Sr. Director of Tech Services AA, assured me that our internet site is externally audited and meets compliance for encryption and safety to required standards.

Why is there a delay before my new group is listed on the MN Meeting Guide APP? FC marks a new group as PENDING 30 days after the first meeting. Then, 30 days after that, the group is marked, ACTIVE. At that time, your group can be listed in the Minnesota Meeting Guide APP. The app is refreshed at 7a & 7p.

What should I do with the old FNV # of my group?

FNV #s are the old system and are being phased out. Your current group ID # starts with zeros "0000...."

How do I get my group's #?

Your group, district, or area treasurers may have it. Otherwise email me and I'll get it for you.

I have an issue getting the Northern Light. Who do I contact? That would be me: Phyllis K grouprecords@area35.org

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Created 1982

Page 16



# Editorial:

### On the 6th Tradition

By Bill

The sixth of our 12 Points of A.A. Tradition is deemed so important that it states at length the relation of the A.A. movement to money and property.

Too detailed to print here, this Tradition declares in substance that the accumulation of money, property and the unwanted personal authority so often generated by material wealth comprise a cluster of serious hazards against which an A.A. group must ever be on guard.

Tradition 6 also enjoins the group never to go into business nor ever to lend the A.A. name or money credit to any "outside" enterprise, no matter how good. Strongly expressed is the opinion that even clubs should not bear the A.A. name; that they ought to be separately incorporated and managed by those individual A.A.s who need or want clubs enough to financially support them.

We would thus divide the spiritual from the material, confine the A.A. movement to its sole aim and insure (however wealthy as individuals we may become) that A.A itself shall always remain poor. We dare not risk the distractions of corporate wealth. Years of experience have proven these principles beyond doubt. They have become certainties, absolute verities for us.

Thank God, we A.A.s have never yet been caught in the kind of religious or political disputes which embroil the world of today. But we ought to face the fact that we have often quarreled violently about money, property and the administration thereof. Money, in quantity, has always been a baleful influence in group life. Let a well meaning donor present an A.A. group with a sizeable sum and we break loose. Nor does trouble abate until that group, as such, somehow disposes of its bank roll. This experience is practically universal. "But," say our friends, "isn't this a confession of weakness? Other organizations do a lot of good with money. Why not A.A.?"

Of course, we of A.A. would be the first to say that many a fine

MAY 1948

enterprise does a lot of good with a lot of money. To these efforts, money is usually primary; it is their life blood. But money is not the life blood of A.A. With us, it is very secondary. Even in small quantities, it is scarcely more than a necessary nuisance, something we wish we could do without entirely. Why is that so?

We explain this easily enough; we don't need money. The care of our A.A. procedure is "one alcoholic talking to another," whether that be sitting on a curbstone, in a home, or at a meeting. It's the message, not the place; it's the talk, not the alms. That does our work. Just places to meet and talk, that's about all A.A. needs. Beyond these, a few small offices, a few secretaries at their desks, a few dollars a piece a year, easily met by voluntary contributions. Trivial indeed, our expenses!

Nowadays, the A.A. group answers its well wishers saying, "Our expenses are trifling. As good earners, we can easily pay them. As we neither need nor want money, why risk its hazards? We'd rather stay poor. Thanks just the same!"

### THE ALCOHOLIC FOUNDATION

P. O. SOX 430

BAND CDITAL AND

\* NEW YORK 13

September 12, 1946

At a special meeting on September 10, 1946 the Trustees of The Alcoholic Foundation, through their Folicy Committee, issued the following statement as a press release and a bulletin to all A.A. members:

"It has come to our attention that several local and meticusal organizations are soliciting contributions of money from the public through personal appeals and letters from which the public may infer aponsorahip by Alcoholics Anonymous,

In view of this fact, we feel that a restatement of our policy in regard to such matters is necessary at this time.

No individual or special group of individuals has been or will be authorized to solicit funds under the sponsorship or with the sanction of the General Headquarters of Alcoholics Anonymous or The Alcoholic Foundation.

In view of this policy, Alcoholics Anonymous not only fails to endorse the present solicitations of funds but looks with disfavor on the unauthorized use of its name in any fund raising activity.

BY: ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

The Trustees of The Alcoholic Foundation"

Bill Wilson and Dr. Sob Smith have asked us to urge Secretaries of all Groups to make certain that each member is familiar with the tradition and policy of Alcoholics Anonymous as expressed in the Trustee's statement. Flease read it to your Group at one or more of its meetings; post it on the Bulletin Foard If practical.

THIS IS IMPORTANT.

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Page 17

Created 1982



#### **INCLUSIVITY**

They included the addict and I did not speak out-

Because I am not an addict.

Then they included the Veteran and I did not speak out-

Because I am not a veteran.

Then they included the Spanish female, and I did not speak out-

Because I am not a Spanish female.

Then they included the Black and African American and I did

Because I am not Black or African American. Then they included the incarcerated person and I did not speak

Because I am not an incarcerated person. Then they included the LGBTQ and I did not speak out-Because I am not LGBTQ.

Then they included the unhoused-and I did not speak out-Because I am not unhoused.

Then they excluded the alcoholic and there was no one to speak

Author - Kerry M. Casper, WY -Submitted by Pat M. Area 35

### BIG BOOK GUIDE

Acceptance- 14, 30, 48, 96, 143 Admission- 25, 72, 78, 92, 135

Aloneness- 17, 89

Ambition- 68, 72, 77, 127, 129

Amends- 8, 59, 69, 77, 82-83

Anger- 60, 61, 64, 66-67, 88, 111

Arrogance- 60, 61, 448

Character Defects- 26, 69

Complacency- 82

Compassion- 82

Courage- 6, 53, 67, 68, 81, 115, 132

Depression- 15, 37, 39, 52, 56, 67

Disease- 21, 23, 44, 64, 92, 107

Easy Does It- 135

Envy- 68, 77

Family- 68, 83, 97, 99, 100, 135

Fear- 67, 68, 115, 116

Financial- 2, 18, 41, 78, 95-96, 127

Freedom- 62, 83, 84, 93, 133, 151

Humility- 12, 13, 25, 63, 72-73, 93, 100

Inventory- 25, 64-65, 69, 72, 73, 86, 99, 126

Insanity-8, 24, 30, 37, 38, 40, 56, 66, 107, 124

Jealousy- 37, 69, 82, 100, 119, 131, 145, 161

Meditation- 59, 69, 83, 85-87, 134, 164

Newcomer- 83, 93, 96-97, 128-129, 135, 164

Open Mind- 12, 46-49, 51, 55, 62

Patience- 67-70, 82, 90, 98, 111, 118, 123, 126

Perfection- 60, 123, 126, 127, 135

Prayer- 63, 67, 70, 75-82, 85-87, 164 Promises- 63, 75, 83-84, 100,115, 116,120 Resentment- 15, 18, 64, 66, 68, 70, 79, 84, 86, 100, 105, 116, 117, 119, 122, 126-127, 145 Recovery- 1-164 Sanity-7, 22-23, 57, 59, 70, 84, 154 Self Will- 60-62, 70, 71, 76, 84, 87 Self Knowledge- 7, 36, 39, 40, 42 Sex- 68-70, 83, 99-100, 124, 134 Step 1; 9, 25, 30, 59, 92, 154, 157 Step 2; 46, 55, 59, 158 Step 3; 59, 60, 63, 100 Step 4; 25, 59, 64, 69, 70, 75, 76, 94 Step 5; 25, 59, 72, 75, 94, 99, 156 Step 6; 59, 76 Step 7; 59, 76, 87 Step 8; 59, 76, 87 Step 9; 59, 76, 78, 83 Step 10; 59, 84, 99 Step 11; 59, 68, 79, 85-87 Step 12; 60, 85, 89-91, 94, 158, 160, 163 Serenity- 14, 63-64, 68, 84 Tolerance- 28, 66-67, 70 Understanding-17-18, 63, 82, 112 Unity- 17, 25 Will- 44-45, 48, 52-53, 55, 60-63, 93 Willingness 12, 13, 26, 36, 41, 46, 53, 57, 60, 69-

70, 76, 76-79, 93, 118, 124, 152, 153, 158, 16279,

93, 118, 124, 152, 153, 158, 159, 162

"I have found rooms full of wonderful people, and for me each and every one of the Big Book's promises have come true. The things that I have learned from my own experiences, from the Big Book and from my friends in A.A. - patience, acceptance, honesty, humility, and true faith in a Power greater than myself - are the tools I use today to live my life, this precious life."

**Excerpt from Alcoholics Anonymous** Fourth Edition p.475 from "Twice Gifted"

The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Created 1982

Page 18

## **UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35**

\*See area35.org for printable flyers

### Keep It Simple Weekend

Theme: Working With Others August 16th, 17th, & 18th, 2024 WEEKEND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

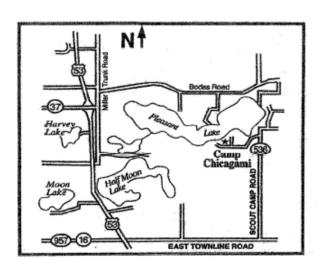
FRIDAY	5:30 PM	REGISTRATION	
	6:30 PM	SUPPER	
	7:30 PM	Al-Anon Speaker – TBD	1
		AA Speaker - Julie N. (North Branch, MN)	. //
	Cam	ofire Call-up Meeting to follow the speakers	Λ/Ι
SATURDAY	8:00 AM	BREAKFAST	N / V /
	10:00 AM	AA Open Big Book Meeting	1 1 1
		Al-Anon Open Meeting	SATURDAY
	NOON	LUNCH	SATURDAT
	1:00 PM	Recreation Time**	D D
	5:00 PM	SUPPER	Bean Bag
	7:00 PM	Al-Anon Speaker – Kit S. (Minnetonka, MN)	Tournament
		AA Speaker – James S. (Burnsville, MN)	C
		Homegroup: Fractured Skulls	Prizes
		Ice Cream Social to follow the speakers	Awarded!!!
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	BREAKFAST	/ N
	10:00 AM	AA Speaker-John K. (Forest Lake, MN)	~ N
		Homegroup: 156 Club	1// 1
	F	Planning meeting for 2025 after speaker	V .
		REGISTRATION	V

Adults Tent/Camper Pkg: 2 nights – 5 meals \$65.00	Children Tent/Camper Package
Adult Bunkhouse Pkg: 2 nights – 5 meals \$85.00	2 nights & 5 meals 10 & under \$20.00
(Pkgs. Include all meals, registration and lodging)	11-17 \$40.00 (includes all meals, reg. and lodging.)
General Admission (all events, not including meals.	Meals: \$8.00 each (payable before eating)
\$30.00 per weekend or \$10.00 per day.	Saturday Supper: \$10.00 per person.
Camping - \$10.00 per person per night (no hookups available)	All accommodations are on a first come/first served basis.
Bunkhouses - \$20.00 Per person per night.	There is room for everyone!
(Does not include general admission.)	Pre-registration is not necessary

Bring your own LAWN CHAIRS, BEDDING, FLASHLIGHTS, ETC. \*\* Activities include volleyball, basketball, canoeing, bocce ball, kayaking, fishing, hiking, campfire and lots of fellowship

For more info, call Dianna S. 559-433-7754 or Sam K. 218-780-8849

SORRY, NO PETS ALLOWED.



#### DIRECTIONS:

FROM EVELETH:
Take Hwy. 53 South and turn left onto Townline Road (2.0 miles south of Hwy 37 cut-off).
Continue on Townline Road for 1.5 miles. Turn left onto Scout Camp Road and continue for 1.5 miles. Camp Chicagami sign will be on your left.

Take Hwy 37 to Hwy 53 and turn south. Continue for 2.0 miles. Turn left onto Townline Road and continue for 1.5 miles. Turn left onto Scout Camp Road and continue for 1.5 miles. Camp Chicagami sign will be on the left.

Take Hvy 53 North, Turn right at Phillips 60 Station (4.1 miles north of Anchor Lake Rest Area) onto East Townline Road. Continue for 1.5 miles. Turn loft onto Scout Camp Road and continue for 1.5 miles. The Camp Chicagami sign will be on the left.

FROM GIANTS RIDGE & BIWABIK:

Take Hwy 135 through Bhysbik to Glibert. Turn left onto Hwy 37 and continue to Eveleth. Take hwy 53 South, 2.0 miles south of Hwy 37 cut-off, turn left on Townline Road. Continue for 1.5 Turn left onto Scout Camp Road and continue for 1. miles. Camp Chicagami sign is on

\*Townline Road is County Road 957 \*\*Scout Camp Road is County Road 536

#### \*\*\* VOLUNTEER INVITATION \*\*\*

Join The A.A. Area 35/Area 36 Statewide Corrections Committee

Redemption

Reconciliation

Peace

Support

FREEDOM ....



IT'S AN INSIDE JOB

- We meet to ensure consistency in our relationship with MN department of Corrections facilities, including participation in Transition Events for the purpose of Bridging the Gap.
- We work together to share our corrections service experience in an effort to offer solutions to each other and engage in creative problem solving.
- We focus on corrections topics of interest to enhance "Carrying the Message" to Inside Alcoholics/members of Alcoholics Anonymous.
- We plan an Annual Statewide Corrections Workshop for all interested A.A. members.
- Open to interest of past and present Corrections Trusted Servants. Open to any A.A. member
- We "Carry the Message" to those most difficult to reach, those who are not free to attend meetings. Carrying the Message to whoever wants it, wherever they are.

CARE RESTORATION



COMPASSION SERENITY

Help Unlock the A.A. Message of Hope

We Will Know a New Freedom

We meet monthly on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM CST. Microsoft Teams Meeting

Click here to ioin the meeting Meeting ID: 212 769 216 350 Passcode: Y9JqVU

Download Teams | Join on the web

SCAN the QR Code to the right to go to the TEAMS Link



"A SPECIAL KIND OF A.A. SERVICE"

For more information, Please contact Mark R - SWCC Chair at one of the following: correctionsmn@gmail.com, or corrections@area35.org



#### DISTRICT 13 CORRECTIONS

#### MCF-St Cloud RIVERS Program A.A. Meetings

Every THURSDAY 6:15pm - 7:15pm - Will meet at the Main Entrance -Meetings are being held in the Chapel.

Freedom, It's An Inside Job



Redemption

Help Unlock the A.A. Message of Hope



#### 12th STEP SERVICE

Help Carry The Message To The Most Difficult to Reach, Those Who Are Not Free To Attend Meetings.

There Are No Second Class A.A. Members, Some Are Locked Up Behind Physical Bars, But Their Minds Are Free. Some Members Are Not Physically Locked Up, But Their Minds Are In Prison!







For more information or application forms, Contact:

Mark R. at: corrections@area35.org

Peggy M. at: dcm13@area35.org

Thank you for your Compassion and Willingness to Serve!

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Created 1982

Page 19

## **UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35**

\*See area35.org for printable flyers

#### **2024 Service Events**

June 2: Area Committee Meeting Aitkin, MN

August 4: Area Committee Meeting
Aitkin, MN

October 5-6: Fall Assembly Alexandria, MN

December 1: Area Committee Meeting Aitkin, MN

> TRI-DISTRICT WORKSHOP Districts 8, 9, and 16

Hibbing Alano Club 3725 1st Ave, Hibbing, MN

Saturday, June 1, 2024 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

#### Agenda

12:00	Welcome and introductions
12:20	What are a GSR's responsibilities?
12:40	What are a DCM's responsibilities?
1:00	What do Public Information and Cooperation with th
	Professional Communities (PI/CPC) committees do?
1:20	What do Literature and Grapevine committees do?
1:40	Break
2:00	What does the Treatment committee do?
2:20	What does the Corrections committee do?
2:40	What does the Archives committee do?
3-00	Speaker - Victoi R. Area Chair

Join us on Zoom! Meeting ID: 876 7457 2568 Passcode: 195870

Sloppy Joes and Ice Cream to follow Snacks welcome

Bring a friend or meet one there!

# **AAGRAPEVINE**

#### Dear Friends and Fellows

AA GRAPEVINE, the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous, will increase the price of its print magazine for the first time in over 12 years. The new price for a yearly subscription is \$36.00, effective April 15, 2024.

Grapevine has held the print magazine price steady through challenging times over the past four years — with costs for paper, printing, and shipping all increasing substantially. The Grapevine Board recognizes that we can no longer sustain the magazine's costs at the current price. Subscribers will receive discounts when ordering over multiple years, or by purchasing the "Complete" option, which includes the print magazine and full access to the website and our new mobile app. Digital subscription prices will stay at the current rates. Active subscribers will stay at their current rate until their term ends.

YOU CAN NOW LISTEN TO

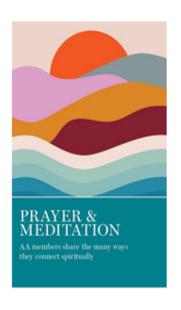
### PRAYER & MEDITATION

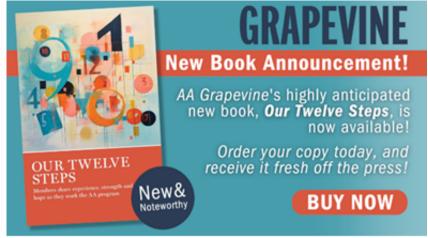
AVAILABLE NOW - NEW AUDIOBOOK!

Features powerful stories by members of Alcoholics Anonymous about the many ways they pray and

many ways they pray and meditate in their daily lives. Available in English.

Learn more here





#### It's the book you've been waiting for

Our Twelve Steps is a brand-new collection of stories from AA members about the joys and challenges of working the program's Twelve Steps of recovery.

Each chapter illuminates a different Step through the experiences of a wide variety of AA members. This volume features all new, upto-date stories from the pages of Grapevine, the International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous.

It's a must-have for sponsees and AA Step meetings.

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

Created 1982

Page 20

### **UPCOMING EVENTS IN AREA 35**

\*See area35.org for printable flyers

PLEASE POST ON BULLETIN BOARD

### "Road to Recovery"



GOPHER STATE ROUNDUP XLIX May 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> 2024



Activities and Accommodations:

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Highway 100 & 494 • Bloomington, MN

MEETINGS • SPEAKERS • FELLOWSHIP • HOSPITALITY ROOMS • A.A. FILMS

REGISTRATION – \$30.00 Contribution (Ages 13 & Over) Scholarships Available On-site

### Register in Advance

Guaranteed Special Room Rates.
Register early for the best rate. Details at
www.gopherstateroundup.org
or directly with DoubleTree by Hilton at
800-222-8733.
Mention Gopher State Roundup for a
special rate.





#### Area 35 Fall Assembly

October 5-6, 2024

Holiday Inn 5637 Hwy 29 So Alexandria, MN 56308

Room Rates: Double Queens Standard and Single King Standard non-smoking rooms: \$159.00 plus tax.

To make reservations please call: (320) 763-6577
Reserve under: NMAA Fall Conference
Cut off Date is: SEPTEMBER 5th, 2024



Saturday. October 5th 9:00 AM Registration 10:00 AM Assembly Convenes

Sunday, October 6th 9:00 AM Assembly Reconvenes



All DCMs, GSRs, Area Officers and Committee Chairs, Delegate, Alternate Delegate and Past Delegates are encouraged to attend as well as all others interested in carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. The only requirement is a willingness to serve.

"Concerning any given service, we pose but one question: 'Is this service really needed?' If it is, then maintain it we must, or fail in our mission to those who seek AA."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., July 1955, "What Is the Third Legacy?", The Language of the Heart



#### Area 35 General Service Conference Agenda Items Process

Greetings Area 35,

The Agenda Items <u>do not</u> come out any sooner to the Delegate than the week of February 15<sup>th</sup> due to the January General Service Board Meeting.

We realize that this timeframe does not give us a lot of time for discussion within our home groups before our April Spring Assembly.

It is the responsibility of the DCM's to get the Agenda Items along with the "Hot Topic List" to the group GSR's in their District. It is important that this information be passed on as soon as it is received.

Thank you for your help.

# Agenda **Deadline Dates**

#### September 15<sup>th</sup>

Deadline to receive proposed Agenda Items and submit Agenda Items to GSO from our Area 35 Delegate

#### February 15<sup>th</sup>

Delegate receives Agenda Items from the General Service Office and sends them along with background information to the Area 35 Webmaster.

The Webmaster posts the material on our website (area35.org) with a protected password. The Delegate sends out an email to the Area 35 Committee with the password information, which is used to download the Agenda Items and background information off the Area 35 website.

#### 1st Sunday in February

Agenda Items are distributed to Area 35 electronically or DCM Can request a hard copy from the Delegate.

#### 1st Weekend in March

Agenda Items are discussed at the West Central Regional AA Service Conference.

#### 1st Weekend in April

Agenda Items are discussed and voted on at the Area 35 Spring Assembly with the Area 35 Delegate.

#### 3rd Week in April

Delegate attends the General Service Conference and carries the voice of Area 35 to New York.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Diane R. Area 35 Panel 74 Delegate delegate@area35.org (218) 929-7846

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Created 1982

Page 21

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

#### **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 to the Grapevine or other pertinent A.A. news sources.
- ♦ Gather useful service information to publish from sources within the Area, Region and A.A. as a whole. Obtain, read and use other Area newsletters.
- Listen to comments from the Area on the content of the N.L.

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

**Editor**: 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 knowledge of MS Publisher, MS Word, MS Excel and other misc. computer programs as needed. 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 the Area Group Records Chair, Area Webmaster and Area Audio Technician along with two D.C.M.s in Area 35. DCM's are picked randomly at the start of each rotation and 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.

**N.L. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** The Committee meets every other month, before the start of the Area Workshop and at Spring and Fall Assemblies. If needed, additional meetings may be called.

#### **NORTHERN LIGHT SUBMISSIONS:**

General submissions are welcome! Feel free to send letters or articles that are pertinent to AA and Area 35. All submissions will be approved by the Northern Light committee, in accordance with Tradition Two; For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern. 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.

Please send submissions to <u>northernlight@area35.org</u> or my address on page 2. The deadline for each issue is printed on the front page.

All submissions should have a title. Please include the first name, last initial and city where the author is from. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted. If you have any questions regarding submitting an item for the *Northern Light*, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you!

Northern Light Editor, Jennifer T.

### **Directions for Inserting a Flier into the Northern Light**

- 1. First & foremost, <u>contact the Northern Light Editor</u> at **northernlight@area35.org** or call the phone number listed on page 3 of the print version of the Northern Light, for the Northern Light Editor (remember this will change every 2 year rotation).
- 2. Email a .pdf version of your flier to **northernlight@area35.org** for approval. Upon approval a copy will be forwarded to the webmaster to be placed on the Area 35 websites calendar of events.
- 3. Upon approval mail 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. **OR** if you wish to have Cold Spring Record print your fliers to be inserted into the Northern Light. The NL Editor will forward a copy of the pdf flier to Cold Spring Record, along with your printing instructions (paper color, one or two sided printing). Currently there are *1000 copies printed with 750 pieces to mail*. What is not mailed is passed out at the Area meetings and assemblies.

Number	Printing Costs			ln:	sertion	Total	
of Copies	15	ided	2 :	Sided		Fee	Cost
750	\$	68	\$	90	\$	30	\$ 98/120
1000	\$	90	\$	120	\$	30	\$ 120/150

5. The cost for having a flier inserted into the Northern Light is \$30. Make Checks payable to NMAA and mail to:

NMAA 1102 E Camp St Ely, MN 55731

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE MOST CURRENT ADDRESS!!!

#### RELATED FLIER INSERTION INFORMATION

- Only Area 35 A.A. Members may submit a flier. Fliers must be for A.A. sponsored events only.
- ♦ Fliers needed—750 mailed only or 1000 for mailed and handouts.

#### Northern Light Deadlines for 2024 are as Follows:

- ♦ June 30, 2024 : Flier will be included in the July/August Issue
- September 1, 2024: Flier will be included in the September/October Issue
- October 7, 2024: Flier will be included in the November/December Issue

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

#### **Area 35 Event Flyer Guidelines**

To be included in the Northern Light, all flyers must answer the following questions.:

- 1. Who is involved or sponsoring the event? Examples:
  - a) AA Group
  - b) District
  - c) Area
- 2. What type of event is it? Please include itinerary. Examples:
  - a) An open or closed meeting
  - b) Speaker meeting
  - c) Call up meeting
  - d) Big Book meeting
  - e) Workshop with itinerary
  - f) Conference with itinerary
  - g) Fellowship (ice cream socials, potlucks, chili cook offs, etc.)
  - h) AA must appear somewhere on the flyer
- 3. When is the event to take place?
  - a) Date and time
  - b) Does it reoccur
- 4. Where will the event take place?
  - a) Name of the facility and the address
  - b) Maps are sometimes helpful but not necessary
- 5. Why is the event taking place?
  - The reason for AA events is to carry the AA message to the still suffering alcoholic (this doesn't have to be printed on the flyer)
  - b) Usually covered in Who and What

\*For safety reasons, if a phone number is listed on the flyer consider NOT putting a name in association with the number.

Only Area 35 AA members may submit a flier. Fliers for AA sponsored events only.

Please submit flyers in PDF format when possible. Flyers will be posted on area35.org and in the Northern Light at the Area 35 Webmaster's and Northern Light Editor's discretion. Email northernlight@area35.org with any questions.

#### **Acronyms**

(Spaghetti Soup)

- AAWS Alcoholics Anonymous World Service
- **ACM** Area Committee Meeting
  - BB Big Book (Alcoholics Anonymous)
- BTG Bridging the Gap
- **CCS** Corrections Correspondence Service
- CFCP Correctional Facility Contact Program
- **CPC** Cooperation with the Professional Community
- **DCM** District Committee Member
  - FC Fellowship Connection
- FOC Finance Oversight Committee
- **GSB** General Service Board
- **GSC** General Service Conference
- **GSO** General Service Office
- **GSR** General Service Representative
- **GV-** Grapevine
- **GVR** Grapevine Representative
- ICYPAA International Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous
  - NL- Northern Light
- NMAA Northern Minnesota Area Assembly
  - PI Public Information
- **Panel** The Two Year Rotation a Delegate Serves (Ours is an Even # Starting with Panel 2 in 1952)
- WCRSC West Central Regional Service (Conference)
- WCRAASC West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference (same as above)
  - WCRF West Central Regional (Forum)
- **WCRAAF** West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Forum (same as above)

# AREA 35 EVENTS INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

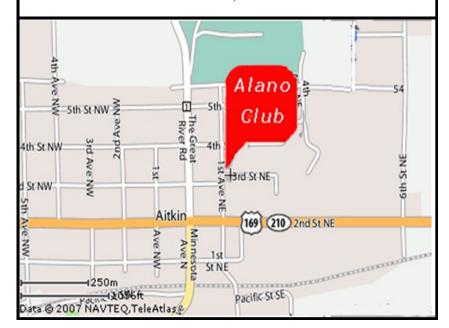
- Area Chair asks for weather reports from all DCMs from respective Districts, either by email or phone.
- Meeting format (virtual, in person or hybrid) is based on DOT report and national weather service, individual safety being paramount. Decisions will be made by 9pm the day before the meeting.
- Chair contacts webmaster with meeting format information (including any virtual links) which will be posted on area35.org
- Chair notifies the Alano Society in Aitkin on food preparations.
- Chair remains available and in close contact as they are the focal point and main contact; Chair must make the decision and be available for calls.
- Districts contact their DCM in inclement weather for updates on meeting format.

# AREA 35 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



# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Created 1982 Page 23

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

### **OUR PAST DELEGATES**

Panel 72 2022-2023	Panel 44 1994-1995	Panel 18 1968-1969	
Steven L	Bruce B	Dave H	
D 170 2020 2021		(deceased)	
Panel 70 2020-2021 Jim S	Panel 42 1992-1993	Panel 16 1966-1967	
Jiii 3	Greg G	Arno A	
Panel 68 2018-2019	(deceased)	(deceased)	
Christine G		D 144 406	
	Panel 40 1990-1991	Panel 14 1964-1965  Donald F	
Panel 66 2016-2017	Bob J	(deceased)	
Kelly D	Panel 38 1988-1989	(december)	
Panel 64 2014-2015	Scott J	Panel 12 1962-1963	
Michael "Jake" J		Donna T	
D 160	Panel 36 1986-1987	(deceased)	
Panel 62 2012-2013 Jim K	Louie H	Panel 10 1960-1961	
JIII K	Panel 34 1984-1985	Bob B	
Panel 60 2010-2011	Bob P	(deceased)	
Jon C	(deceased)	Panel 8 1958-1959	
		Pearl N	
Panel 58 2008-2009 JoAnne M N	Panel 32 1982-1983	(deceased)	
JOAnne IVI N	Tom L (deceased)		
Panel 56 2006-2007	(deceased)	Panel 6 1956-1957	
Jerry S	Panel 30 1980-1981	Waldo H (deceased)	
	Don M	(deceased)	
Panel 54 2004-2005 Charlie C	(deceased)	Panel 4 1954-1955	
Charne C	Panel 28 1978-1979	Wendell H	
Panel 52 2002-2003	Garfield (Duffy) S	(deceased)	
Tim C	(deceased)	Panel 2 1952-1953	
D150 2000 2001		Arthur R	
Panel 50 2000-2001 Tom A	Panel 26 1976-1977	(deceased)	
1011111	Vern R (deceased)		
Panel 48 1998-1999	Panel 24 1974-1975		
Susie A	Gordon B. H		
Panel 46 1996-1997	(deceased)		
Bill P	Panel 22 1972-1973		
(deceased)	Frank P. J		
	(deceased)		
	B 120		
	Panel 20 1970-1971 Clarence Berg		
	(deceased)		
	()		

### Q: Why list our past Delegates?

#### A: They are a resource to you!

In Alcoholics Anonymous we value experience. Our Twelve Steps did not exist when Bill stepped into the lobby of a hotel in Akron, Ohio. Even after meeting with Dr. Bob and soon founding our program, there were only six steps until the experiences of 100 Alcoholics were summed up. Soon after a book followed, but it was a few years later when the Twelve Traditions were discussed and agreed on. Twelve Traditions that were "hammered out on the anvil of experience". Our past Delegates are a wealth of experience, an interactive living archive if you will. When you plan your next service workshop or need an outside voice to offer help, consider this resource available to you.

### The Delegate's Duties

Though the high point is the Conference meeting, the delegate's job goes on year-round and involves all aspects of the Conference structure. The delegate should:

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

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

# **NORTHERN LIGHT**

Created 1982

Page 24

Newsletter of the Northern Minnesota Area 35 Assembly

#### **AREA 35 COMMITTEE MEETING**

Agenda Aitkin, MN June 2, 2024

9:00 A.M. Action Chair Committee Meetings	GRAPEVINE – Terry A
(9:30 a.m. Financial Oversight Committee)	District 12 – Richard G
10:30 A.M. Area Committee Meeting	District 16 – Dave C
Call to Order Open with the Serenity Prayer	CORRECTIONS – Mark R
Recognize Past Delegates	Statewide Corrections – Corrections
Add to Agenda	District 3 – Melvin S
Approve Minutes from February 4 ACM	District 13 – Peggy M
OFFICER REPORTS	
Delegate – Diane R	12:00 P.M. Lunch
Belegate Blane R	12:45 P.M. Reconvene
Alternate Delegate – Pat M	12.43 1.W. Reconvene
Thernate Delegate 1 at 141	OLD BUSINESS
Chair – Vicki R	OLD BUSHIESS
Secretary – Denise R	Ad-hoc committee updates:
Treasurer – Heidi B	
Ireasurer – freidi B	Inventory  Auticles of Incomposition
COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DCM REPORTS	Articles of Incorporation
	Web/Technology
Financial Oversight Committee- Scott A District 7 – Jessica S	Zonal Forums
DISTRICT / – Jessica S	PAI - Add No changing any of the Founder's
WEDMACTED Towns D	Writings to the Conference Charter
WEBMASTER – Terry P	PAI – Temporary halt to Pamphlets
NORTHERN LIGHT – Jennifer T	PAI – Spending moratorium
GROUP RECORDS – Phyllis K	
District 2 -	
District 11 – Kathy M	NEW BUSINESS:
LITERATURE – Mike U	discuss adding a corrections Tab on our Ar-
District 8 – John J	ea35.org website
District 15 – Fred T	2025 Budget
PUBLIC INFORMATION – Randy A	
District 1 - Jennifer Z	
District 21 – Jeri S	
TREATMENT – Kyle H	
District 5 – Chad O	
District 14 -	Calendar of Events
CPC – Mary S	Adjourn - responsibility statement
District 6 – Julie N	
District 9 – Tom T	
ARCHIVES – Kathy R	
ARCHIVIST – Marc N	
District 4 – James W	
District 18 – Rich	
	<u> </u>

Please remember to include your group service number on all contributions. This will ensure that your contributions get credited to your group.

Mail Area 35 Group contributions to: NMAA

1102 E Camp St Ely, MN 55731