

**DISTRICT 9 MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE: 09.24.23**

The meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer with Chuck, Cathy, Tom, John, Denise, Diane, Ricco, Pat M-Area 35 Literature Chair, Jack and Sandy in attendance.

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

**Agenda Additions:** Area 35 Literature Chair, Inventory Questionnaire, Nominations

**Secretary's Report:** August Treasurer's Report corrections \$1,835.68 Beginning Balance and Expenses corrected \$184.04 and Ending Balance \$2,174.64, less Reserve \$1,874.64 (see attached). Last Month's Meeting Minutes approved with August Treasurer's Report corrections.

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**CHAIR REPORTS**

**Treasury Report:**

Beginning Balance	\$ 2,174.64
Income	\$ 100.00
Expenses	\$ 0.00

Ending Balance	\$ 2,274.64
Less Reserve	\$ -300.00
Total Balance	\$ 1,974.64 (See Attached)

**Treatment:** Tom received info from Bobby, staff at Partners Behavioral Healthcare Outpatient Treatment in Hibbing, that they approved speakers to come in. He will pass this information onto Jeff.

**Corrections:** Ricco attended the Moose Lake prison, 20 contact forms were filled out by inmates. They will get someone corresponding with them in the facility and then when they get out to transition them to meetings and help with getting a sponsor.

Ricco has mailed letters to Keewatin and Hibbing prisons with information on the contact program.

**Literature/Grapevine:** The order for the G.S.R. Pamphlet, "The GSR?" was received. Please contact me with any orders for your group(s). September 1, Grapevine has an updated app available on Google Play or Apple Store.

**Archives:** Chuck has been pushing the Long Timer Questionnaire at all the meetings he attends. He has put a file on his computer and will email his report to District 9 Archives. He encourages everyone to fill it out. No qualification date is required. Please fill out and bring back to Chuck at a meeting or at the District meeting. Long Timer Questionnaire is located on the back table at the Alano Club.

Jake has been responsible for the archives at the Alano club which belongs to the Alano club. It was suggested that the Original Long Timer Questionnaires are better kept locally than originals to District 9 Archives.

Archives discussion followed. It is thought that Bill Sommer's mother was a past Delegate. It is said that Bill Sommers was from Hibbing and went to Bemidji to start their meetings. Diane will

confirm with Scott J. Cathy thinks Brad, who was the past archivist after Scott, spoke of the history, and it may be downstairs in the Alano Club archives. Chuck has information on his computer he gave to Brad and will look for it.

**CPC/PI:** I stopped in at the Hibbing Police Department and talked to them about our working with them to reach out to the still suffering alcoholic. I gave them some literature and showed them our QR Code so they can get the pertinent information about meetings, etc. They were very receptive and will post some of our literature on their bulletin board.

I also stopped at the St. Louis County Probation office in Hibbing. The receptionist gave me the name of the contact person, but she was not in that day. I will stop again next week.

I attended the Tri-District Workshop planning committee meeting via zoom. We then had our Fall Tri-District Get Together at the Alano Club in Hibbing yesterday. It was very well presented by a variety of people with varying amounts of sobriety. The attendance was very good, and everyone seemed to appreciate the information. There was also good fellowship after the brats and burgers served.

I will be attending the Fall Assembly in St. Cloud in about 2 weeks. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Tom T.

### WEBSITE REPORT

Month	1 <sup>st</sup> Time Users	Total Hits
September	357	1267

### GSR REPORTS

<b>GSR</b>  Sandy Tom, Alt	<b>Hibbing Downtown Group \$110172</b> <b>Monday Night St. James Church 7:00 pm</b> <b>Meeting ID: 399 875 003</b> <b>Password: 129930</b> <b>Format: Hybrid – Steps, Traditions, Big Book, CAL</b>	<b>Attendees:</b> 12-15  <b>Pins:</b> 0

<b>GSR</b>	<b>Thursday Morning Downtown Group #101949</b> <b>St. James Church 10:00 am (Handicap Accessible)</b>	<b>Attendees:</b> 12 <b>Pins:</b> 0
Jack	<b>Format:</b> Steps & Topic	
<b>GSR</b>	<b>Tuesday 4:00 pm Group #12541</b> <b>Hibbing Alano Club</b>	<b>Attendees:</b> 6-8 <b>Pins:</b> 6 months
Cathy	<b>Format:</b> Grapevine Literature	
<b>GSR</b>	<b>Thursday Noon Group #8471</b> <b>Hibbing Alano Club 12:00 pm</b>	<b>Attendees:</b> 9 <b>Pins:</b> 0
Chuck	<b>Format:</b> 12x12	
<b>GSR</b>	<b>Saturday Night Keep It Simple Group \$64685</b>	<b>Attendees:</b> <b>10</b> <b>Pins:</b> <b>0</b>
John	<b>Format:</b> Big Book Study	

**ALT DCM Report:** I attended the Tri-District workshop, Saturday September 23, 2023; 35AA members from all 3 districts (9 from District 9). The workshop started with a presentation about service sponsorship. The treasurer's and secretary's responsibilities were discussed. Each of the following jobs were discussed:

- GSR - main job is to keep communication lines open between the group and the district.
- Corrections - the speaker talked about taking Big Book meetings into the jail and focusing on steps 1-3
- Archives - this is where the district keeps its history
- Treatment - bridging the gap between treatment and AA
- CPC/PI - Web Master keeping all the district information correct
- Literature/Grapevine - carrying the message through literature
- DCM - link between GSR and the Area Delegate

- PI - carrying the AA message to the alcoholic through public media
- CPC - distribute AA information to those in contact with alcoholics professionally

I have talked with each group that I attend, about the workshop, upcoming rotation chair nominations and the Long Timers Questionnaire. I have received several responses and will archive the responses. I plan to attend the Area Assembly in St. Cloud. In Service Chuck

**DCM Report:** Thank you, Chuck, for filling in for me in August. Ricco and I decided to attend the West Central Regional Forum in Montana last month. It was a good Forum and we learned a lot. Although Area 35 decided not send most of their Area Officers and Chairs, it was well attended by Area 35 A.A.s. We met staff and listened to reports from GSO Staff. My favorite was Robert, Trustee-At-Large. He talked about how he is Caring the A.A. Message Internationally. We learned from Kevin, Class A Trustee, that we are one month behind on rent. They choose not to take out of the reserve fund but believe that it can be made up in the coming months with less expenses. The Grapevine app launched 9/1/23.

In the upcoming Fall Area 35 Assembly will be held in St Cloud. The current Agenda was made available. If you would like more information on the Agenda Items, please let me know. We will be electing our Area Officers for the next rotation. Delegate resumes are in the last Northern Light. If you want to nominate someone for Area Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer talk to them ahead of time and make sure they are willing to stand for the position. The person nominating them will have to give a one-minute presentation to tell of their service work to A.A. and why they would be a good candidate for the position.

Yesterday we had our Tri-District Workshop. Thank you to everyone that showed up and made this workshop a success. Everyone gave excellent presentations. Our Area Chair, Christine, did a wonderful presentation on Robert Rules of Order and the third legacy procedure. Rolene, from

District 8, did an excellent presentation on service sponsor. Thanks to Tom, our griller, for all his hard work and for the making the Barbeque a success. It was delicious.

I am submitting a request with invoices for the following:

Evoice (Phone)	\$152.70
Zoom (because we share the cost with the Hibbing Downtown Group, 13 months from 8/7/22 to 8/12/23 through 9/11/23 was \$209.17 divided by 2	\$104.59
Area Committee meeting gas and meal	\$ 17.00
Tri-District Workshop, Christine expense	\$ 17.00
Tri-district Workshop rent	\$ 33.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$324.29</b>

In service Diane

**Business (Old/New):**

Pat, Area 35 Literature drove 3.5 hours to attend our meeting and bring many books, DCs, pamphlets, etc. Pat also reported he attended the West Central Regional A.A. Forum recently.

Bundle KIT: AA comes of Age, Dr. Bob, the Good Ole Timer, Pass it On, As Bill Sees It, Came to believe, Living Sober, In Prison, Experience Strength and Hope, AA Service Manual, Our Great Responsibility, A Visual History of A.A. and then throw in a handful of pamphlets all for \$84.89

Let me know if you're interested in his Bundle Kit.

Pamphlets handed out:

12 steps and 12 Traditions folded Card	Declaration of Unity/I am Responsible Card
AA Group Pamphlet	Suggested reaching Chapter on Trouble out of the book Our Great Responsibility
Visual History of Alcoholics Anonymous	CD of the History
Big Book on CD	Concepts Pamphlet
Pamphlet AA in Prison – Message of Hope	Pamphlet Free on the Inside – Grapevine on prisoners
Handed out updated Safety Cards	Sponsorship Pamphlets are available
Reported Service Manual is on back order	Suggests a CD where Bill discusses 12 Traditions, markings on the journey, AA history using material from GSO on CD

He also reported the change to the New 4<sup>th</sup> Edition Big Book cover is laminated vs the dust cover as previously used to turn inside out for anonymity. No other changes reported to the newly printed Big Books. He has recently purchased 100 Big Books and reported many groups ordering by the case. As you may already know, literature prices have gone up!

Pat also shared about his passion for Alcoholics anonymous and service experience. Thank you, Pat!

Chuck reported the Inventory Questionnaire has not gotten much response from the groups he has talked to. He is looking into a different type for the first of the year. One that is simple and more direct. Chuck is ending the current Inventory and will discuss it in December. Thank you for all of those is participated in the inventory. Look for something new in 2024!

Nominations at the next meeting to fill District positions: Ricco cannot nominate.

DCM            Diane nominates Tom T for DCM, Tom accepts

                  Jack nominates Diane – who declines

Alt DCM        Chuck stands

Secretary      Chucks nominates Cathy, Cathy accepts

Treasurer     Diane nominates Sandy, Sandy accepts

Open Chairs:

                  Treatment

                  Corrections

                  Literature/Grapevine

                  CPC/PI

                  Web Manager - Appointed by CPC/PI Chair

                  Archives

We will also accept nominations in October. Please ask groups for more nominations – please remind everyone it's time for rotation and to stand for GSRs.

GSO is even doing a rotation. We discussed the need to let go and the spirit of rotation.

We discussed the idea for a Big Book workshop. Grand Rapids has had a 3-day workshop Friday – Sunday and was very well received.

Chuck mentioned the Iron Range Get Together is looking for volunteers – several positions for that committee and other opportunities. Their next planning meeting is 10/9/23 at 6:00 pm at Smoke on the Water in Coleraine. The Iron Range Get Together is scheduled for May 3-4, 2024.

Denise brought up the topic of sponsorship. Some thoughts discussed where Sponsors are not getting sponsees involved, bringing them along to events and the importance of having a service sponsor. Rolene also spoke of being a service sponsor at the Saturday Tri -District workshop.

**Area 35 Fall Assembly:** October 7-8, 2023 River's Edge St. Cloud Convention Center

**District Meeting:** Sunday, October 29, 2023 @ 6:00 pm Hibbing Alano Club & Hybrid  
**Meeting ID:** 884 1245 0410 **Passcode:** 020124

**Joint MN Area 35 & 36 Statewide Corrections Committee Workshop:** November 18, 2023 9:30 am to 3:00 pm Jack & Jim's Event Center 11025 Duelm Rd NE, Foley MN Online & in person go to <https://www.area35.org/swcccorrectionsworkshop/>

**Area 35 Committee Meeting (ACM):** December 3, 2023 @ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, Aitkin, MN

**48<sup>th</sup> Annual Area 35 Service Workshop “Connecting with Love, Unity and Service”:** January 13-14, 2024 River's Edge Convention Center, 100 4<sup>th</sup> Ave S., St. Cloud MN

**Closed with the Responsibility Statement**

Minutes submitted by Sandy K., District 9 Secretary 520-664-6011 [skomula@gmail.com](mailto:skomula@gmail.com)