



# District 7 Feb. 2015 Newsletter



Once again it is time for the Annual Agenda!

Dear Friends,

I would first like to remind everyone that this is something that we Get To Do. We are so completely blessed to even be here breathing in the first place that any whining about having to dedicate a few short moments of our lives to the study of the 2015 Agenda is a demonstration of selfishness, and lack of gratitude. Let's just clear the air and get right sized on this matter from the start. If you are still having trouble with this statement allow me to expound.

We owe our lives and our freedom to the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. This wonderful fellowship, and program of action has liberated us from a living hell. How much should I give back to repay this debt? The answer is MORE. So a brief study of the 2015 Agenda, an agenda which will effect our lives and the lives of all future sufferers, and participation in sharing our informed conscience is one of the most important ways we can give back what has been so freely given to us.

Every year our fellowship holds a meeting of representatives of AA-Delegates from Areas all over North America, Trustees, staff members, and others. At this meeting decisions are made on how to best steer our fellowship into the future. Here in the north woods our Delegate Jake will be attending to carry the informed conscience of all of Northern Minnesota to Conference in N.Y. and there he will vote on our behalf. This process is democratic in that your voice IS heard in N.Y.. But you must participate for the process to work. We tell Jake what we like, and we tell him what we don't like about the Agenda, and our fellowship in general. It is his duty to bring that forward in the Conference. If we don't tell him anything, then the process breaks and Jake brings Jake's conscience to the table, and your voice is silenced.

This is your best chance to show up for AA. The manner in which this is done starts at the individual level, and moves down the levels of service through the Group Representative, to the DCM at the District level, to the Delegate at the Area- Jake J.. At each level of service there is.....cont. pg 2 See Page 2

## FEB DCM REPORT

Greetings to district 7. This last month has been quiet. The pinnacle of our service work is about to happen. We have our area meeting this Sunday Feb. 22, then, we have the WRAASC in Norfolk, NEB. The following weekend. We are then tasked with going through the GSO agenda items getting first our group conscience and then the district's followed by the area in April. I pray we all have the patience and tolerance to do the task at hand, since, many of us will be faced with

of attitude of indifference and "I don't care" attitudes. I know of three new groups in the Brainerd area. I was hoping they would contact me to get on the schedule, but so far, they have not. I will search them out in the coming weeks.

CARL DCM D7



### Aitkin County Jail

We need volunteers especially women, to bring meetings into the jail Thursday 5:30 pm. Orientation in April. Contact- Tim 218-838-0628, or Arden 218-392-0081, or Jail Volunteer Coordinator, Dan Moriarty.

## SAVE THIS DATE! Cooperation with the Professional Community

Sponsored By:

**Alcoholics Anonymous District 7**

**Date: Thursday, May 21st, 2015**

**Time: 4:00pm—6:00pm**

The event includes:

- Appetizers and beverages
- Speakers from the area
- AA Archives Display
- Literature and the Big Book available for the professional

**Grand View Lodge**

**23521 Nokomis Ave.  
Nisswa, Mn 56468**

**Contact person: Liz.  
218-820-9558**

**Only 15. \$**

This is an informative event designed to educate those who have contact with alcoholics through their profession. Information is provided about what we are, what we can do, and what we cannot do. It also provides an excellent opportunity for fellowship before and after the event. The Glacial Water Spa as well as The Pines and The Garden Golf Course are available at a discounted rate. Please contact Liz at 218.820.9558 for tickets and more information. You can also contact Grandview at 218.963.2234 for spa appointments or tee times.

Historically we have looked for support for this event from our groups to sponsor at least one professional as well as purchase the ticket. Payment for the person from the group who will sponsor the professional will be left up to each group's discretion.

discussion, and democratic voting to determine a group conscience. Minority reports, and grievances are heard. To become a participant the first step is to become familiar with the Agenda Items. Then discussion of the hot topic items at your home group becomes the next order of events. Representing your Group as a GSR at District, or even as an individual member of AA at any level of service is recommended. Voting is typically held at each level of service.

Over the years I have seen a wide variety of hot topic items discussed for the Agenda. The most contentious items involve changes to the Big Book, The erosion of God within our literature (the pamphlet to the Atheist), the loss of copy rights, and trademarks, The previous haemorrhaging of the Grapevine, Anonymity issues, Primary Purpose disputes, Haemorrhaging money in general, social media sites, and the list goes on.

Lately the Anonymity/Social Media activists have spearheaded a charge at trying to change a Tradition to include "press, radio, film, and social media". Their first attempts to change a tradition were stone walled with a massive logistics problem involving a Charter which states they'd need 75% of the fellowship to vote yes in writing to effect the change. Most lately some of the more clever and determined of this crowd have proposed a change to the Charter to state "75% of those who participate". If I have mis spoken to this train of events I'll apologize now in writing- forgive me. I am simply trying to give a generic example of the types of issues at stake.

Anyway, All my verbal fumbling aside, You don't need to be a rocket scientist, or a brain surgeon to see the importance of these discussions. Occasionally I have seen certain members get quite passionate about items. Yes, I have witnessed emotional inebriety. Early on in service I might have experienced a tiny bit of duress myself, But calmer heads prevail. And this democratic process is instructive also, as it teaches us love, compassion, empathy, understanding, but also patience, as the wheels turn slowly, but grind quite finely.

Now I am sure that you are eager to participate, but are wondering? " How is that to come about?" you ask, Where am I to find these people?" *pg 152 Alcoholic Anonymous*

Attend the District 7 meetings this March, and/or call a District Service Person for a CD copy of the 2015 Agenda. Hold a business meeting at your home group, and discuss regularly the material on the disk before and after meetings.

And here I thought I'd have a touch of writer's block this month. Imagine my surprise as my fingers blazed over the keyboard inspired with love for this process that our fellowship uses as it steers it's way into the future. I hope, Dear Friend, that you are also inspired. If you want to keep this thing- you must give it away.

## 2015 West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference

February 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015

Divots Conference Center and Norfolk Lodge and Suites

4200 W. Norfolk Avenue Norfolk, NE 68701

Call (402) 379-3833 for all reservations.

The entire facility is reserved for this conference through February 1, 2015. Use reservation code "WCR." Beginning Feb. 2, 2015, any remaining rooms will be released to the public. Our group rate will still be honored if you use the code "WCR". All rooms will be \$84.99 + tax, per night, for 1 - 4 occupancy. The entire facility is non-smoking - restricted smoking areas will be available outdoors. **IF YOU WILL BE FLYING:** The two closest commercial airports are Sioux City, IA, and Omaha, NE. Please add 1.5 hours from Sioux City or 2 hours from Omaha to your travel time. \*

<b>Friday February 27<sup>th</sup></b>	9:45	Break	4:15	<b>GSC Agenda Items III</b>		
2:30	Registration begins	10:00	<b>GSC Agenda Items II</b>	6:00	Dinner (on your own)	
3:30	Early Bird Meeting	11:30	Lunch (on your own)	7:30	<b>Open AA Speaker</b>	
7:00	Opening and Welcome	12:45	<b>Breakout Session I:</b> Area Officers/Trustees,	8:30	Break	
7:15	<b>General Session I:</b> "Diversity in AA - Our Heritage of Inclusiveness" - Area 36 Southern MN	1:45	Break	8:45	<b>Ask-it Basket</b>	
8:00	Break	2:00	<b>Breakout Session II:</b> Corrections, PICPC, Grapevine, Special Needs/Remote Comm.	9:15	<b>GSC Agenda Items IV</b>	
8:15	<b>Meet the Delegates</b> GSC Agenda Items I	3:00	Break	9:30	Break	
<b>Saturday February 28<sup>th</sup></b>	7:30	Early Bird Meeting	3:15	<b>General Session III:</b> "Safeguarding our Traditions through the Evolution of Technology" - Area 40 MT	10:30	Thank You and Close
8:45	Opening and Welcome	4:00	Break			
9:00	<b>General Session II:</b> "Safety and Respect - Practicing the Principles Begins in our Home Group" - Area 52 ND					

All are WELCOME!!

Preregistrations MUST be postmarked by February 20, 2015.

For information: Email Delegate@area41.org

Registration: \$15.00

Mail to: WCRAASC

1600 Ridgeway Road  
Lincoln, NE 68506

## Spring Assembly Area 35

**When** Apr 11 - 12, 2015

**Where** 902 Frontier Dr, Fergus Falls, MN 56537, USA  
([map](#))

**Description** 2015 Spring Assembly April 11-12

Big Woods Event Center, Fergus Falls MN  
(218) 739-2211 or (800) 293-2216.  
Reserve rooms by March 10, 2015. Rates are \$109.99.

Sat. 9 a.m. Registration

Sat. 10 a.m. GSR Orientation & Area Action Committee Meetings

Assembly convenes at 1 p.m. with reports & area business, concludes with GSC Agenda Item Discussion.

Sunday assembly convenes at 9 a.m.

## Area 35 Committee Meeting

**When** Sunday, Feb 22, 2015

**Where** 322 1st. Avenue N.E., Aitkin, MN ([map](#))

**Description** Area 35 Committee Meeting

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Aitkin Alano Club  
Aitkin, MN

Feb.22nd is the next Area Meeting in Aitkin. Be there! Remember what Rodger said at our Sept. District Meeting!

The 3rd Thurs. of every month we hold District Meetings at the 1st Congregational Church in Brainerd. We Need Warm Bodies! Be There- Be Square!