

RCM Report ~ 2/16/08

At the recent RSC meeting, the treasurer discussed with us how he pays all the Region's expenses in advance in order to avoid any late fees. What he does is pre-pays all the bills after they receive the check from MNNAC. I thought perhaps we could consider doing that here after Vermilion if we had the ability to do so. It's just something to think about. Also, there is a new Public Relations booklet that replaces the old PI handbook.

During the open forum of the meeting, there was a representative from the PIG committee that spoke in regards to how it was brought to the members of PIG that at a legal stand point they should not be holding raffles or being holding fundraising events because NA is considered to be a non-profit organization. For example, selling raffle tickets is considering gambling so it was suggested that we look up the statutes regarding non-profit organizations. It was also suggested that go through the process of becoming an organization as opposed to being a non-profit organization. Perhaps this could be considered for Vermilion. This is what PIG is doing in order to protect themselves from any legal complications.

The region also discussed strategic planning for the Region which is very similar to the process we've been trying to experiment with here at our area. Some of the ideas brought up were creating a database of all meetings in the Minnesota Region that way we can incorporate that into the website so people can search by group name, street address, city, or zip code.

The Regional Assembly will be held on March 29th of this year at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer at 285 N. Dale Street in St. Paul. It will be held from 12p-6p. Will all the GSRs please bring this back to you groups and plan on attending. It is your responsibility to carry your groups vote at the Regional Assembly. Keep in mind that everyone is welcome to attend however GSRs are required to attend. At the Regional Assembly we will be discussing certain items and then vote on all the items included in the CAR (Conference Agenda Report). The three main discussion topics will be; Building Stringer Home Groups, Our Service Structure, and Who's Not Here? Note these topics are very similar to some of the topics we have discussed here at our area.

The UMSO (Upper Midwest Service Office) asked that all RCMs bring back to their areas to find out if we would be interested in designating an individual to be responsible for bringing a box of NA literature & other supplies to our area functions. Also they wanted to let us know that they can still provide us with insurance for our NA functions as long as we give them at least a 2 weeks notice.

MNNAC 15 is approaching fast. Don't forget to register. It is April 4-6 and the theme this year is "Surrender to Win". The MNNAC BOD reported that MNNAC 16 will be held April 17-19, 2009. They have approved their early bird registration as well as their logo & theme which is "Lost Dreams Awaken, New Possibilities Arise". They also brought to our attention that they have received a bid for MNNAC 17 which is expected to be held in 2010, however they would like to see more competition and they mentioned that they'd like to see us put in a bid for it. So if our area continues to progress as we have been, then perhaps hosting MNNAC 17 could be a goal of ours.

Lastly we will be hosting the Midwest Zonal Forum this year on August 30th in the Twin Cities. The Midwest Zonal Forum was formed with the intent of facilitating communication between all the NA regions in the Midwest. I am very excited that it will be held here in Minnesota this year as I haven't been able to attend one in quite a while.

In Loving service, Jaime H.