

Archives Report – update since I wasn't there due to illness.
Oct. 2003

Urgent: We are meeting Sat. Nov. 8th at 10AM – 4PM at the Area 36 Archives for our Ad-Hoc on Growth. Being ill I was not able to inform all of you sooner, my sincerest apologies.

Some things we are looking at, the good and the bad.

- We collect history to preserve our message? That would be the Area 36 history. And some AA history itself. But, our Archives are designed for our use in preserving and maintaining our history in Area 36.
- What are the Service responsibilities of the Archives Committee as opposed to the Archivist -- The guidelines are not accurate and do not cover enough of either positions including the Committee. We are planning on several actions to change this.
- Whose job is it to display the pictures and AA in MN history? If it is the job of the Archives Committee to display the pictures and MN history then it would be the job of every committee to do a display at these functions, because we are a committee. I only saw the Grapevine and Archives at Hiawathaland. Is it not the job of the Archives Committee Chair and Committee to get interest in the committee and what to collect and preserve for Archives? Doesn't the Archivist sort out the Archives in existence, and maintain them?
- Someone took a picture of a dinner back because we would not display Archives at an outside fundraiser and people were upset at my decision to keep out of court and returning the one item, but a Past Delegate took his items back because nothing had been done to them yet, and nothing. We are not a storage facility for others Archives. Not at \$300 a month. If you are storing, please come get it back ASAP. Last time I checked a gift was a gift and a contribution was a contribution. Are we now taking back our contributions in AA? I don't go to my home group and take back my contributions out of the basket.
- Part of this was getting things organized in a timely manner. Well I didn't see any Area folks at the Area 36 Archives workday. Please show up and help. There are thousands or more sheets of paper to sort out. A handful of people cannot do all of this.
- Our display only shows AA history in general, as well as the history of the beginning of AA in MN. What about the history of Southern MN, or the Area itself.

Or some of these so-called remote communities. If we are going to do displays then we need some history on the Area itself, as well as information on the committee itself.

- We are working on these items now, because the experience of being a Conference Committee is as old as only a few years ago. We haven't the stability of the other committees, but we do have a good foundation. This process of Archives Coming of Age will...in itself... become a part of our Area 36 Archives for the future AA Archives members to look back upon to avoid the mistakes of the past...which are now.
- Any questions or comments are always appreciated – and calling my phone is better than my history of checking emails.
Thanks.

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**Yours in sobriety and service,
Area36 Archives Chair
Ronald J. C. Jr.**