

Hawai'i Area Assembly 2006

Inform The Delegate

April 01, 2006 - April 02, 2006

To be held at The Hilo Sangha Hall. Located at [REDACTED].

Registration Fee \$25.00 Payable To: East Hawai'i District

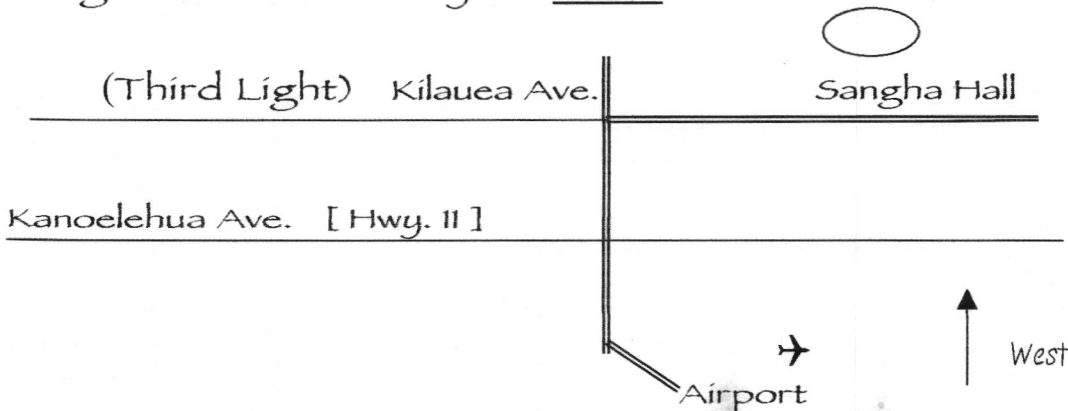
Registration Begins at 8 AM

Directions from the Hilo International Airport:

Exit Airport Go Straight until you reach Kilauea Ave.

Turn RIGHT go Approx. One half mile.

Sangha Hall will be on your LEFT.



Important Numbers and E - Mail addresses for Ya

Home Stay : TIM [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Transportation : Paul [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Registration: Lynette [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Service Position _____

Group Name _____ Phone # _____

Do You Need Transportation from the Airport? _____

Date _____ Arrival Time _____ Airline _____

Date _____ Departure Time _____ Airline _____

Do You Need Housing? _____ Special Needs _____

Food Preference [Please Check] _____ Regular _____ Vegetarian _____

Mail This Slip and Checks to: Lynette c/o East Hawaii District [REDACTED] Hilo, Hi. 96721

INFORM THE DELEGATE ASSEMBLY
EAST HAWAII
APRIL 1-2, 2006

SATURDAY

- 8:00-9:00 Breakfast and Registration
- 9:00 Call To Order
- Serenity Prayer
 - Host DCM Announcements
 - Reading
- 9:15 Introduction; Brief description of the General Service Conference
- 9:35 Presentation/Sponsorship - Francesca
1. Presenting A.A. to newcomers- WAIANAE
 2. Changes to the Alcoholic Coming to A.A.-KAUAI
 3. Sponsorship into Sobriety, into Service-WAIANAE
- Presentation/Service
1. Performing Service without Expectations-EAST HAWAII
 2. Leadership-An ever vital need-WEST HAWAII
 3. Responsibility with Accountability- NO KA OI
- Presentation/Self-Support
1. An Informed Group Conscience-CENTRAL NORTH SHORE
 2. Gratitude thru Self-Sacrifice-WINDWARD
- Questions and sharing
- 10:35 BREAK
- 10:50 Presentation/Co-operation with the Professional Community-Nick
1. Are we attracting Professionals to A.A. thru other means of Media? (DVD, website, etc.) Are we asking what A.A. can do to help professionals/ or should we asking can the Professionals can do to help us carry our message? - KIHEI

Presentation/Finance

2. In the Pamphlet “Where Money and Spirituality Mix” is the Pie chart useful? Should it be updated to reflect a different percentage?-WEST MAUI

Presentation/International Conventions/Regional Forums

3. Are Regional/Special Forums useful? Do members participate in these events? How can we encourage participation?MANOA

Questions and sharing

12:00-1:00

Lunch

1:00-2:00

Presentation/Literature-Jerry

1. Would a pamphlet be on Inter groups? Central Offices be useful, or are the A.A. guidelines adequate?-WAIKIKI
2. Is the Pamphlet “Letter to a Woman Alcoholic” outdated? Should it be discontinued ?-LEEWARD
3. Should we be concerned about making a pamphlet that may contain outside issue? (Religion and spirituality)-DIAMOND HEAD

2:00-2:45

Presentation/Public Information-Elizabeth

1. Is it important to have a Public Information Survey of A.A.? How can we get more delegate Areas involved in the distribution and collection of this survey ?HONOLULU
2. In the Public Information Survey of A.A. is it important that the public know if we are “Married” , have “Domestic Partners” or what our “Sexual Orientation” is ?PUNA

Questions and Sharing

2; 45

BREAK

- 3:00-4:00 Workshop: "PASS IT ON IN A CHANGING WORLD"
(See attached for discussion topics)
- 4:00-4:30 PRAASA Reports
- 4:30-5:00 what's on your mind? Ask it Basket

SUNDAY

- 8:00-9:00 Breakfast and Registration
- 9; 00 Call to Order
- Serenity Prayer
 - Host DCM Announcements
 - Reading
- 9:15 Special Election-Alternate Delegate
- 9:45 Committee Working Sessions
- 10; 15 Break
- 10:45 Round Tables-DCM, GSRS, Committee
- 11:15 Area Officers Reports
- Secretary Report & Minutes
 - Treasurer Report & Vote
 - Registrar
 - Delegate
 - Alternate delegate
 - Chair
 - Alternate chair
- 11:45 Concept Presentation
- 12:00 LUNCH
- 1:00 Committee Reports-3 minutes
- 1:30 DCM Reports -3 Minutes

2:15	Break
2:30	Inter group Reports HICYPAA, ICYPAA Reports
2:45	Old Business 1. Ad hoc Committee-Archives 2. Ad hoc Committee Structure 3. Proposal –Limit Spending on Unbudgeted line items
3:15	New Business 1. Tele-Conferencing for Assemblies/Committee Meetings
3; 30	what's on your Mind? Ask it basket
4; 00	Adjourn

HERE IS A RE-CAP OF THE SCHEDULE FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR.

Inform the Delegate	APR 1-2
Committee Meeting	JUN. 17
Budget Assembly	AUG. 19-20
Committee Meeting	OCT. 14
Election Assembly	Nov. 11-12

The Agenda is Subject to change for time management purposes. This Assembly is tight for time as panel will probably take a full day and we have a special election.

As a courtesy to the Secretary please submit all reports in writing for accuracy's sake. Please not those items you want recorded verbatim.

All the Assemblies and Committee Meetings are important. If you are a GSR, this is your group's link to Area and New York. If you are a DCM, the information is vital to your district to that they can be informed for the next Assembly, know what is going on and what the issues our Area and A.A. as a whole.

In Service,

Vernon

<p>2006 GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE WORKSHOP PASSING IT ON IN A CHANGING WORLD</p>

Participants are invited to share on the topic selected by the 2005 General Service Conference, "Passing It On in a Changing World". The following questions are intended to facilitate a full and fruitful sharing session.

1. How does a changing world affect what your group is doing to carry the message to newcomers?
2. Bill W. originally called the Traditions "Twelve Points to Assure Our Future." How are the Traditions fulfilling that purpose 60 years later?
3. How does your group convey that the responsibility for self-support includes giving in effort and time in addition to money?
4. What current issues do you feel affect A.A. that need to be talked about? Why do you feel they are Important? What changes would you like to see as a result of these discussions?

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East Hawaii District
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Saturday, April 1, 2006

Meeting opened @ 9:00 am with the Serenity Prayer.
Introductions of all new to General Service and Past Delegate.
Spirit of Rotation Presentation – David E.
Reading of Service Manual S19 – Why Do We Need A Conference?
Brief description of the General Service Conference – Keith H.

****Inform the Delegate Panels****

Separate Document

****Workshop – Passing it on in a changing world ****

Separate Document

PRAASA Reports – Vernon, Area Chair & Keith, Delegate gave PRAASA Reports. One of the big concerns in AA today is that 5% of the people are doing 95% of the work in AA service.

Open Sharing – PRAASA Experiences

- Spanish Interrupters - always inclusive, never exclusive
- Lead by example, not by mandate
- By attending on my own dime, I was able to attend what I really wanted to
- Hot sharing from the microphones
- Recharged my service batteries
- My group used a second basket to collect funds, and left it up to God to see if I would attend, and we raised \$500
- I had a resentment against those drug court people who have been coming to AA, and I heard “help them feel welcome, until they decide if they belong here” and it changed my mind and my heart
- I read the background with my family (AA members) before attending, and this is a fabulous process for me
- I felt very bonded to AA, PRAASA, Hawaii and Kauai
- At the round table, I suddenly realized that it’s all exactly the way it should be
- I feel really informed after PRAASA and the panels today
- Thought I wasn’t going to go to the mic, but I went
- Had an incredible time
- The world changes, but AA doesn’t change

Sunday April 2, 2006

Opened at 9:00 with the Serenity Prayer

Reading – Leadership in AA: Ever a Vital Need (Service Manual pS47)

Special Election of Alternate Delegate –Francesca is stepping down for this position due to family reasons. Qualifications read from the AA Service Manual and Structures and Guidelines, sharing by outgoing Alt Delegate Francesca. This term will start in June and run through the end of Panel 55 (December 2006). Third Legacy procedure explained: Service Manual p S21.

Question asked from the floor if someone can continue in their current position and stand as Alt Delegate. It is suggested that if you are standing for Alt Delegate, please be willing to step down from current position if elected.

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Voting Details:

<p>First Ballot: Woody - 45 Keith K. - 0 Jack - 3 Dianna - 8 Floyd - 21 Michael - 32</p> <p>Total Votes cast is 109 2/3 will be 73</p>	<p>Second Ballot: Woody - 56 Keith K. - 1 Jack - 1 Dianna - 2 Floyd - 11 Michael - 38</p> <p>Total Votes cast is 109 2/3 will be 73</p> <p><small>*All candidates with less than 1/5 vote are withdrawn*</small></p>	<p>Third Ballot: Woody - 67 Michael - 41</p> <p>Total Votes cast is 108 2/3 will be 72</p>	<p>Fourth Ballot: Woody - 69 Michael - 41</p> <p>Total Votes cast is 110 2/3 will be 74</p>
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Motion made to go to the Fifth Ballot. Seconded, 2 in favor, motion defeated. To the Hat: Woody was selected.

****Standing Committee Working Sessions****

Intergroup Reports

****Note: Oahu Intergroup Chair is absent***

Kauai – Mathea - Kauai Intergroup now has a physical office that is doing well. Both Intergroup and District meet there once a month as well as three weekly AA meetings. Tea shirts with the island of Kauai on the back with the serenity prayer in Hawaiian in the center and in English around the edge are sold for \$20.00 and are popular we now have a store of AA books to sell on to our groups. Our phone service is handled entirely by AA's. We have just printed 2500 copies of our updated AA schedule. It shows 54 meetings in 26 groups. Our finances are adequate although we are on the low side presently with about \$1650 in our account. Our next island AA event is the 2006 Round-up at Kokee Mountain Park. This is a resumption of our Round-up Event after a six year hiatus. I have flyers

East Hawaii Intergroup – Ben – We have at least three meetings per day, and half of them are held at Central Office across from the fire station in Hilo. We are supporting HICYPAA with the Big Island Bid. Intergroup continues to be involved in Alkathons during the holidays. We are recognizing Founders Day with a picnic supported by all of the groups in the East Hawaii and Puns districts. We currently meet on the second Tuesday of each month with average of 20 participants.

West Maui Intergroup – Mike – We continue to hold regular functions and get together. We are financially stable, and the tele-service is doing great.

Area Officers Reports

Registrar – T – New group on Maui called Friday Night Young People. There are 11 new GSRs here this weekend, and one new Alt DCM. If you have any other group changes, please get them to me.

Recording Secretary Report - Elizabeth - Like I mentioned yesterday during the open mike PRAASA sharing, I learned a lot at the Secretaries Roundtables this year. I would like to request of all those who submit written reports (Standing Committee Chairs, DCMs, Intergroup Chairs and Area Officers) to summarize their reports to 2 – 3 paragraphs for purposes of the minutes. This is not to infer that your report is not as important, but just that we need to be more precise in our minutes. This will facilitate a few things:

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1. They will not be so unwieldy and mind boggling to read
2. We will save money and paper
3. Information will not get buried
4. They will get distributed in a more timely manner

Acceptance of January 2006 Assembly minutes – One amendment, which was made on original, motion to accept as amended, seconded and approved.

Acceptance of Treasurers Report – Everyone given full copies, asked to review before approval. Motion to accept, seconded. 1 opposed. Q. About suggestion about requesting groups to up their 7th contribution on treasurer's report. A. That is just a suggestion, as your treasurer it's my responsibility to inform you of where we stand. **Comment: If we all take advantage of the interisland airfare wars, we can save the Area about \$1600.**

Alt. Delegate – Francesca – Welcome and Congratulations to Woody. I continue to attend the monthly Hawaii Annual Convention Steering Committee. The Final Budget Report for the 2005 Convention is available. If you plan to attend and haven't done so please register. At my discretion and after a long discussion with the webmaster I have decided not to ask him to resign. He took the commitment and wants to stick with it. Working on a story board so that a new website which will be more user friendly is being developed. I hope to achieve this before I leave.

Alt Area Chair – Nick - Would like to welcome Woody as our incoming Alt Delegate. Thank you for all your support, I celebrated my 17th AA birthday on Friday March 31, and appreciate the life AA and Hawaii Area 17 has given me. The Finance Committee has finalized the tentative budget for 2007, and will be presenting to districts in the upcoming months. Convention Steering Committee has also finalized a budget, reduced by approximately \$20,000 to help restore set-up monies. Reminder to all districts: please send me Assembly and Committee meeting fliers to me for approval before sending out.

Area Chair – Vernon – This Inform the Delegate Assembly will be very tight time wise. We have a very busy Agenda and Saturday we are preparing for The General Service Conference informing the Assembly and the Delegate. I am extending the Time to 5:00p.m. Out of necessity Committee and DCM reports will have to be cut down to 3minutes just for that Assembly. If time permits and we get all of our Inform the Delegate business done we can expand that. Also we will be having a Special Election on Sunday morning to fill the remaining term for Alternate Delegate as Francesca will be stepping down. Please let everyone know that this will be happening. The Qualifications are in the Service manual and experience in General Service is highly recommended. I am disappointed to say that nothing has been posted on the Website in 2006 and we are doing everything we can to remedy this situation and hopefully by the time you are reading this the problem will be resolved. I wanted to stress to all the DCM s that the Committee Meetings are very important. The meat of the last Committee Meeting was our Delegate report and our preparation for this Assembly. The Delegate has put a tremendous amount of work into this so that we can be prepared for the Assembly. We just need to do our part. The background material was given to all the DCM s and their districts assigned a panel and an Area Officer to work with. I would ask that all DCM s attend all Committee Meetings if at all possible. If you are not able to make it for whatever reason that you send your Alternate DCM or even a GSR to the Meeting. DCMs are a vital link from the Area to the Districts. I have all DCM s on my e-mail list and have checked with Elizabeth as well. If your e-mail address has changed please let the Registrar and /or me know.

Delegate Report – Keith - **PRAASA March 3-5 2005:** The theme of the 39th annual PRAASA was "Sponsorship, Service and Self-Support in a Changing World." This theme also corresponds with the theme of the General Service Conference. At the PRAASA business meeting we (Hawaii Area 17) made our intention known that we will be bidding for the 2009 PRAASA at the General Service Conference. Hawaii last hosted PRAASA in Kona in 1999. 44 members from Hawaii made their way to Woodland Hills CA. This was a record for Hawaii attendees to a mainland PRAASA. Thank you to all who attended making my dream of over 40 attendees a possibility. Hopefully we can have 50 next year in Portland. The tally went: 1 AA member, 2 alt. GSR's, 23 GSR's, 8 DCM's, 4 Committee Chairs, 3 Area Officers, 2 Past Delegates, 1 Past Trustee. Total attendance was approximately 1200. Phyllis H. our Pacific Regional Trustee will be rotating at this year's

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conference. Hopefully our nominee Tanya E. will be our next Regional Trustee. Phyllis's report stated literature sales are down 5%. She continued to say 79% of sales come from AA's (intergroups and groups, etc.) and 21% are from non-AA sales like Hazelden. Contributions are up slightly 4%. Contributions make up 48% while 52% is from literature sales. This means that only 1/2 of the listed groups participate in our legacy of service and self-support. The Pacific Region average is 44.8% of groups that contribute. She gave us all a challenge that we help get the Pacific Region self support participation over 60%. The last time the fellowships average was at 60% was in the mid 1980's. For our fellowship to be self-supporting from contributions it would take \$6.00 a year per member. If only 1/2 the groups are participating then we would be about talking \$12.00 per year, a \$1.00 per month. This is not a lot when I think how much this fellowship has given me. Our reserve fund is at 8.5 months last year it was at 9.5 and the year before it was 10.5. So you can see we have a slow decline in this fund. Our literature sales are flat and contributions only showed a slight increase last year. If this trend continues we will have three choices 1. Raise literature costs 2. Decrease group services or 3. Increase contributions. General Service Conference April 23—29, 2006 New York: I will be leaving Hawaii for NY on the 20th and will return on the 1st. I will continue to correspond with any emails or calls I get. I am very excited to be attending the second conference of my term. I am confident that the members of the 56th GSC will make the best possible decisions for AA as a whole. I look forward to sharing with you all the decisions that this conference makes in my report backs. The Native American AA Gathering May 20-21, 2006 Banning CA. Morongo Indian Reservation, This Forum Gathering is similar to the Special Forum held here in Hawaii in 2004. The Pacific Regional Forum June 24-25 Seattle Washington: This will be my first ever Regional Forum. I will be giving a presentation on the topic "Are We Trusting the Process". I hope that some members from Hawaii will join Vernon and me at this Forum. When I have attended the Special Forums here in Hawaii it has given me a broader view of our whole fellowship.

2007 Assemblies – Districts pulled from the hat

January 20-21 Assembly Waikiki	February Committee Meeting West Hawaii	April Assembly Leeward	June Committee Meeting Kauai
August Assembly Windward	October Committee Meeting No Ka Oi	November Assembly (optional) Honolulu	Dates for Feb thru Nov Will be determined at a later time

Concept Presentation – Tape from 2002 PRAASA played

Standing Committee Chairs

****Note: Hospital and Treatment Chairs are absent****

Mynah Bird – Michelle - April printing of the mynah bird went well. I edited minutes and inventory results to save space. I love it when reports are short and to the point. Next topic - Serenity - due date is July 5. Please submit to mynahbird@hawaii.rr.com.

CPC – Marianne - Puna District's C.P.C./P.I. Chair, Tony K., advises that the Big Book, Living Sober and the 12 and 12 have all been placed in the Hilo, Kea'au, Pahoia and Mountain View Public Libraries. This project was funded by the Pahoia Thursday night Big Book Meeting! West Hawaii C.P.C. Chair, Sandra S. reports she attended the Drug Court graduation earlier this week. There were approximately 30 graduates and they and their families were so full of gratitude for their sobriety there was not a dry eye in the place. Sandra and her committee are still planning on having two luncheons for professionals sometime this spring. Kihei District's C.P.C. Chair, Colin H. is continuing to take panels to at least two DUI classes each month and he also distributes literature and meeting schedules to Doctors offices. Mike B., member of A Spiritual Awakening in Diamond Head District is continuing to supply the A.A. literature rack at Kaiser-Behavioral Health Services in the Ala Moana Building. Mike reports he is hoping to do more service in the future.

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Windward District's, C.P.C. Chair, Roberta A. is currently writing letters to lawyers, clergymen, doctors and other companies in the professional community on the windward side of Oahu. She has invited Care Hawaii case managers, professors from WCC and some clergymen to attend the Monday night Kailua Speakers meeting which is an open meeting. Those professionals who attend the meeting usually join Roberta and other members for a "meeting after the meeting" at Zippy's where she has the opportunity to give them pamphlets and answer their questions. A few people who attended one of the meetings had been under the impression that A.A. was a place for alcoholics to get together and drink alcohol as they shared their stories! Roberta is willing to help other district's get started with their C.P.C. committees. Any district's interested in having a C.P.C. Workshop, please let me know and I will be happy to help you in any way. Literature is available to help your committee get started. My thanks to Vernon for the committee working sessions that he has added to all of our committee meetings and assemblies. These sessions are helping me reach the districts that are interested in C.P.C. on a one to one basis.

PI Committee- Dianna – Iolani School has requested a speaker to come in every six weeks; they are planning a school wide assembly and want Mike and Arne to come. I will be contacting DCM's to see what they would like PI to assist them with. I am available for presentations: bombadillon@hotmail.com, 872-
7306.

Corrections – Rick - My name is Rick, and I am an alcoholic. Right now there is a big problem getting into most of the facilities. Budget cuts have affected many jails and prisons and there is often not enough staff to facilitate any special programs. This is likely to be the case until July 1, 2006 when a new fiscal year begins. It's very frustrating for many volunteers, not being able to hold many of the scheduled meetings but all we can do is wait for things to get better. Some facilities have not been affected by these cuts. All committee members continue to do an excellent job although there continue to be many challenges I am happy to report that we getting inmates in Halawa and Waiawa to sign up for our Bridging the Gap Program. Whenever I receive a letter from an inmate asking to be connected with a member of AA, I always find someone eager to serve in that capacity. Personally, I am blessed to have the opportunity regularly attend meetings in Halawa, and Laumaka and this continues to be a very rewarding experience. I would like to especially thank our Hilo volunteers for continuing to do such awesome service work. I have heard nothing but fantastic reports about the corrections work that is being done on this island by Addie B. and Bob L The Kauai and Maui volunteers continue to serve this Area well and I would also like to thank them for their Service and to remind them that if they need any assistance, please don't hesitate to ask. We will continue to attempt to answer all requests for AA literature that we receive throughout the Area and remain available to assist with any other special requests that we receive.

CEC – Marion - 1st Annual International Sober over Sixty Conference, May 18-21, 2006 Outrigger Keauhou Beach Resort, Kailua Kona on the Big Island has been the focus of activity for the CEC. If you plan to attend and would like to be of service, our DCM Archie is chair of the "Aloha Hosts" committee and can use help. You can contact me or Archie at bifarobie@hawaii.rr.com or archie@hawaii.rr.com. Many new Senior in Sobriety meetings have popped up. Three in Arizona, several in Southern California, one in Brookings, Oregon, all doing well. Our area website contains the Resource Review and CEC workbook and is a resource for the AA community and others. Plans for the third annual Seniors in Sobriety retreat at the Ahu Lani Sanctuary are in the works. The retreat will be held Friday thru Sunday, October 27-29,2006 and retreat flyers are available at this assembly.

Grapevine – Keith K - No written report submitted

Conventions – Frank - 2005 – Final Budget: Income: \$204,482.00; Expense: \$200,230.19. Unsold souvenirs were not the reason for the conventions financial situation, instead, its income actually helped to pay other convention expenses. 2006 – **Fliers and registration are available** at central office, home-groups or from your DCM. Preferred method of registration would be to send payments in the form of check or money order. (Convention receives 100% of monies). May register online with pay-pal (will include an additional \$4 fee on top of \$50 early registration fee or \$60 late registration fee). 2006 Budget: \$177,251.00. Please announce around fellowship – "there will be no free food during Thursday night opening reception this year." Opening night remains free to the fellowship and three-speaker meeting format will remain intact. Service positions still available. We encourage neighbor island participation. Committee meetings held on last Wednesday of the month at Kaumakapili church. We informed the Convention Center that we may have the convention on the

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island of Hawai'i at Waikoloa for the 2008 and/or 2009 years. Secured tentative convention dates for the following years: 2007 – November 1 – 4; 2008 – November 13 -16; 2009 – October 29 - November 1. Ala Moana Hotel: all renovations will be completed by late summer/early fall. Puna Proposal: Dee Dee's tireless dialog continues with Waikoloa – Andrea Hennings. Back in town on March 29, Ms. Hennings will be reviewing our latest requests/questions and responding accordingly.

Archives – Sandi – No written report submitted

Hospitals – Bridgette – Absent (submitted by email) - We chewed through 2 boxes of back dated grapevines, and are distributing literature wherever there is a need. If anyone serving on a hospital committee on any island is in need of literature please email me at [REDACTED] or call me at [REDACTED]. We have a new volunteer for the Kahuku Hosp. service position, Mahalo Hugh. We lost our Queens Hosp. Adolescent service carrier and are transitioning a new chair for this position. This is an exciting position. If your group would like to satellite a speaker discussion meeting into the Queens Adolescent Unit with a young peoples focus I would love the help. We have been reported of three AA's who were in the hospital and got a call from our contact on Kauai who reported to us. That two volunteers go into the Facility on Kauai and share what AA is and what AA isn't and answers questions on a monthly basis. The Detox procedures are going well in Kauai. I will be there this coming weekend and will check on them. I will also be doing a workshop there on service in committee work in June. We got literature to Molokai with our archives chair and while we were in Maui we checked out all the terrific work that our hospitals girl is doing there, great job. Big Island is doing well and I would just like to thank everyone for my sobriety and for being of service for Alcoholics Anonymous.

DCM Reports

Diamond Head - Floyd – I would like to thank all from the district who participated in the panels, and our Alt DCM for preparing the presentation. District is doing well in regards to GSRs, but we are lacking in Committee Positions in the district. I still need help in this area. We are looking forward to hosting the budget assembly in August, and will be working on the fliers.

Waianae – Amber – Our workshop is schedules for May 20th at Poka'i Bay. Topics include: Parenthood in Sobriety; Family Afterwards; 7th Tradition; Newcomers; Sponsorship and Unity through the Legacies. We were able to help a GSR from the women's meeting with travel for this assembly. Our GSR for Waianae Men's Stage is here for the first time as well. Founders Day is building it's committee and we hope to see you at the event.

Central North Shore – Hugh –Central North Shore District is moving along. At our last district meeting the preparations for transportation, Home stay and lastly food has been finalized for the upcoming June Committee Meeting. In February I asked all GSR's to go out and Contact Committee Chairs and ask how they could be of service. So far Central North shore has representatives in Corrections, Grapevine, and Hospital Committee's. Central North Shore Workshop is scheduled for May 20th at United Methodist Church from 10am-4pm. Topic will be Sponsorship, Service and Self-Support in a Changing World." Mililani Women's Steps and Traditions meeting has a new home located at Waipio Grace Brethren Church [REDACTED] Drive from 730pm – 830pm. Updates have been sent to Central Office.

Puna – Chris – At our last district meeting we distributed questionnaire: Passing it on in a Changing World to the GSRs for group conscience. Discussed updating our website that we share with East Hawaii District. Links on the site are Conference approved e.g: Area 17, GSO, Intergroups from all over the world. Some groups are passing an extra basket at their meeting to provide literature for the correction facilities at Hale Nani for both men and women. Grapevines are also being requested for the inmates. Still searching for a place for the November Assembly. More shall be revealed.

Kauai – Shoshanna for Bart who is absent – Even though the weather was severe and damaging with beach and road closures, all meetings occurred with good attendance. Our Alt DCM is doing archives, and maintaining a log of motions passed. PSA's are now starting to be heard on Kauai. We have a new treasurer, David J. Corrections having an orientation later in April.

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Kihei – Kathie - We are continuing to study a concept a month at our district meetings. We had fun preparing our answer for our "Inform the Delegate" question. Our new District Grapevine Chair, Amy, has been enthusiastically getting acquainted with her position. She was able to sit in on the grapevine meeting at the last Committee meeting. She placed Grapevines in the waiting room at Kihei Kaiser Clinic and bought a subscription to the digital archives. Danny, Our District Treatment chair is continuing to take a meeting to the Resource Center every Weds night at 8:00 p.m. And filling literature racks at the various Kihei Medical Clinics. Colin, district CPC chair, continues to take a panel to the DUI classes. The district is planning a "Celebrate Sobriety" strictly fun day at Kalama Park to be held Sunday, April 9th. There will be a band, food, and meeting.

West Hawaii – Archie - Our P.I. is helping new groups get registered and carrying information to old ones. The hospitals and corrections committees have been distributing books and literature where they have never been before. C.P.C. still plans a luncheon more will be revealed and our trusted treasurer keeps us in tune with our budget. Liz with Mynah Bird always reminds us about article deadlines. Grapevine's chair Steve is carrying his message to home groups. At our last business meeting we were putting the finishing touches for this assembly, talking about up coming events such as Founder's day, Unity day, as well as our Big Island Bash April 28th to 30th, and Sober Over Sixty Conference May 18th through 21st.

East Hawaii - Arthur - We have three new groups. East Hawaii is doing very well. Thanks to the many people in service for this Assembly.

Leeward – Erin - Our prudent reserve is back up, and we were able to send me here this weekend. Our district attendance is going up. We will be voting on our budget in April. We met three extra times this month to work on this weekend's panels, thanks to those who participated. We have set our Delegate report back for August 5, as well as our annual picnic / inventory sometime in August. We still play softball with Central North Shore.

No Ka Oi – Cliff - We are still trying to fill the many open positions available. A District inventory was taken. Ad Hoc's to be formed targeting 3 major areas that were identified: Carrying message to/from groups; carrying message to/from still suffering alcoholics and building an effective district. We have confirmed our delegate report back date and are making it an Island wide event. At this point we have preliminary information from the committee heading the Maui Round-Up that it is being rescheduled so it doesn't conflict with the Maui Fest in June.

Manoa – Debbie - I brought 100 copies of the proposal to merge Manoa, Diamond Head and Honolulu Districts for those GSRs who have not already received a copy of it. I handed it out to area officers and DCMs at our last committee meeting. Please get your groups input on this proposal and be prepared to vote their conscience on the subject at the August Assembly. If you, or they, have any questions, feel free to contact me or another Manoa District member. We are also open to any ideas you have about other solutions to the problem of lack of participation at this level. We look forward to getting your feedback and advice. In the meantime, we will continue to do what we can to help the groups in our district and the Hawaii area.

Waikiki – Ken - We have been working on the presentation for this assembly and have not much more to add as far as the district activity. Much of this report is to share of the PRAASA experience. We were given the honor and privilege to participate in service as the chairperson for the GSR Roundtable events for Friday and Saturday nights. The room filled with approximately 120 GSRs, including the those from Area 17, an awesome experience.

Honolulu – Patti - Black Experience will be holding their 2nd annual Cadillac Campout from April 7-9, 2006 at the campgrounds on Kaneohe Marine Base. Malia Discussion is fundraising huli-huli chicken tickets to help with the cost of their food and supplies for their roundup on June 16-18, 2006. One of the issues that was addressed is that is it appropriate or is the group breaking traditions to fundraise for an AA event. Joe M. our past Area Chair gave some input claiming that if it is an AA event, then there should be no fundraising. Malia Discussion GSR will be taking this information back to their group and address its concerns. Downtown Lunch is growing. They added another 2 meetings to their list of meetings. One of those meetings is at the Women's IHS on Mondays 7pm. They already have one meeting at the Men's IHS on Thursday evening which is coed. Several of the groups had or will be having a group inventory in the near future. Downtown Lunch did there's

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on March 18, 2006 and Came To Believe and Ha'awa'awa is at the planning stage. The District went over some of the barriers and concerns of the proposal that Chuck M., GSR of Ha'awa'awa brought forth regarding a Video Conference. He spoke with our Area Chair, Vernon G. and decided to rescind his proposal. Came To Believe is in an area where a lot of newcomers are able to attend, and they have people in service, however they don't have a lot of active home group members. I met with their oldest home group member a week ago to discuss their situation in getting the message back to their group as their newest GSR has to step down due to medical problems. They are willing to have a member from another home group carry their message to the District and Assemblies meetings until one of their own members step up to the plate. David W. from Kane'ali'i gave a breakdown of the attendance at the Aloha Roundup. There were 243 registered for the weekend of February 24-27, 2006. There were 114 from Hawaii (28 from neighbor islands), 83 from California, 2 from Germany, 16 from Canada, and 3 from Australia. There were 54 women and 31 AI-Anon. The next Aloha Roundup will be held on February 23-25, 2006. As the DCM of my District, would it be possible to not host a Committee Meeting on this weekend next year, as it is an AA event? It has been noted that some of us wasn't able to attend this event for the past 2 years because the Committee Meeting was scheduled at the same time.

Windward – Sue - Several members of our district attended PRAASA. Our standing committees are busy; we are planning a Grapevine workshop in October (the Sunday of the committee meeting) and may include a CPC workshop as well. Laurie continues to take meetings into Castle hospital, and Becky is still working with the women's prison. Our district is doing better financially and we were even able to help one of the groups get here. I was blessed to facilitate a group inventory for one of the groups in our district and used a very powerful format that I got from the web that was well-received by the group. If anyone wants it, let me know. We continue to caravan to a meeting each month and do a short concept and tradition study at each district meeting.

West Maui – Michael – We are running like a well oiled machine. District meeting having great participation, home groups blessed with infrastructure in place. WE are assisting with Maui Fest III, Public Awareness in schools, hospitals, jails and institutions.

HICYPAA / ICYPAA Reports

HICYPAA – Kunane – 2006 HICYPAA is September 1,2 and 3 at the Makaha Resort on Oahu. Saturday Volleyball tournament and dance are free to all registered. To make hotel reservations call: [REDACTED] or toll free [REDACTED]. Big Island Bid Committee needs support, contact Ilene at [REDACTED]. HICYPAA contact: Guy Y. – Registration 4 [REDACTED], Jaimie K, Committee Chair [REDACTED] and Dori M. Committee Co-Chair – [REDACTED].

ICYPAA– Old School Mike – Bid committee to bring the ICYPAA to Maui. See www.icypaa.org for more information.

Old Business

Ad Hoc Committee on Archives – New Alt Delegate Woody will be heading this committee and will hopefully have something to report at upcoming assemblies. This Ad-Hoc Committee is only for the duration of Panel 55.

Ad Hoc Committee on Standing Committee structure Mike - Developing a survey for the DCM and Committees which will be distributed at the June Committee meeting. When we receive that information we will come up with a recommendation.

Proposals from Aloha Friday Night – Limit Spending on Unbudgeted Line Items Lisa M.

The original wording stands after going back to the home group with suggestions from the last committee meeting. Would like to table this to the next assembly. Discussion from floor. Upset that we are holding voting issues after the reports. **Point of order:** Once you have begun discussion, it cannot be tabled. Motion to table this proposal, seconded. For: 20, against:

Introduction of proposals: This is to address the 2 unbudgeted line items that were purchased during this panel. We feel that \$250 is a prudent amount for unbudgeted items without being taken back to the group.

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\$500 for unbudgeted housekeeping items. We cannot leave this to the next panel to look back and say "Hey, they did it". We are not going to let it happen again. That's the essence of this proposal.

Motion: To add to the S & G: "Unbudgeted housekeeping items totaling \$250 or more must be taken to the Groups for decision."

Discussion: This proposal would honor the process. The groups should be able to consider the expenditures that Area is making. People in this room are trusted by the groups otherwise they wouldn't be here. My group thinks that the amount is a little low, and that this will tie things up for a long time, it would take a year for us to make any purposes. I took this to my home group, and we took the time to come to an informed group conscience. The answer was: you asre our trusted servant, and we are voting against it. There is a lot of sobriety in this room, we should be able to make decisions.

For: 2

Against: 71

No minority wishes to speak, motion defeated.

To add to the S & G "Unbudgeted line items totaling \$500 or more must be taken to the Groups for decision."

Discussion: I have yet to find any evidence that the Right of Decision applies to Area. I am concerned that we are applying the authority which was designed for General Service at the Conference level here in Area.

For: 7

Opposed: 65

No minority wishes to speak, the motion defeated.

From Area Chair: In the future for proposals, please take to the district first to see if there is support, then forward on through the DCM to the Committee meeting, then to the Assembly.

Ask it Basket

Q. What do we do if our DCM is not doing his job? A. Ask that person if they need help, if they're ok, and that their not drunk! One of our concepts says that we do not punish, love and tolerance of others is our code. Q. The website for our Area is out of date, please comment. A. I spoke to the web master with the intentions of asking to him to resign but after speaking with him and learning what was going on in his life, I changed my mind and he agreed to improve. A. Concept workshop would be appreciated, can we do that? A. It may be good to do this at the District level. Q. Is it accountable for a district to make money from an assembly? A. This may be something that the area needs to take a look at. What happens to all the profits from Assemblies? We may want to discuss this at a future assembly. My experience in a past assembly, we had \$2,000 leftover, and we gave the money back to the Area after prorating the people who paid registrations. I think it was wrong for districts to make money off of assemblies. I think there needs some guidelines or criteria. I would like to see our Area take a look at this. Our districts need to be accountable.

Delegate Report
Inform the Delegate Assembly
East Hawaii April 1-2, 2006

Aloha and welcome to anyone new to this wonderful process (General Service). If you are new to this may you find the love, compassion and understanding that was given to me. I have been given a life beyond anything I could ever imagine.

PRAASA March 3-5 2005

The theme of the 39th annual PRAASA was "Sponsorship, Service and Self-Support in a Changing World." This theme also corresponds with the theme of the General Service Conference. At the PRAASA business meeting we (Hawaii Area 17) made our intention known that we will be bidding for the 2009 PRAASA at the General Service Conference. Hawaii last hosted PRAASA in Kona in 1999. 44 members from Hawaii made their way to Woodland Hills CA. This was a record for Hawaii attendees to a mainland PRAASA. Thank you to all who attended making my dream of over 40 attendees a possibility. Hopefully we can have 50 next year in Portland. The tally went: 1 AA member, 2 alt. GSR's, 23 GSR's, 8 DCM's, 4 Committee Chairs, 3 Area Officers, 2 Past Delegates, 1 Past Trustee. Total attendance was approximately 1200. Phyllis H. our Pacific Regional Trustee will be rotating at this year's conference. Hopefully our nominee Tanya E. will be our next Regional Trustee. Phyllis's report stated literature sales are down 5%. She continued to say 79% of sales come from AA's (intergroups and groups, etc.) and 21% are from non-AA sales like Hazelden. Contributions are up slightly 4%. Contributions make up 48% while 52% is from literature sales. This means that only 1/2 of the listed groups participate in our legacy of service and self-support. The Pacific Region average is 44.8% of groups that contribute. She gave us all a challenge that we help get the Pacific Region self support participation over 60%. The last time the fellowships average was at 60% was in the mid 1980's. For our fellowship to be self-supporting from contributions it would take \$6.00 a year per member. If only 1/2 the groups are participating then we would be about talking \$12.00 per year, a \$1.00 per month. This is not a lot when I think how much this fellowship has given me. Our reserve fund is at 8.5 months last year it was at 9.5 and the year before it was 10.5. So you can see we have a slow decline in this fund. Our literature sales are flat and contributions only showed a slight increase last year. If this trend continues we will have three choices 1. Raise literature costs 2. Decrease group services or 3. Increase contributions.

General Service Conference April 23—29, 2006 New York

I will be leaving Hawaii for NY on the 20th and will return on the 1st. I will continue to correspond with any emails or calls I get. I am very excited to be attending the second conference of my term. I am confident that the members of the 56th GSC will make the best possible decisions for AA as a whole. I look forward to sharing with you all the decisions that this conference makes in my report backs.

The Native American AA Gathering May 20-21, 2006 Banning CA. Morongo Indian Reservation, This Forum Gathering is similar to the Special Forum held here in Hawaii in 2004.

The Pacific Regional Forum June 24-25 Seattle Washington

This will be my first ever Regional Forum. I will be giving a presentation on the topic "Are We Trusting the Process". I hope that some members from Hawaii will join Vernon and me at this Forum. When I have attended the Special Forums here in Hawaii it has given me a broader view of our whole fellowship.

I want to thank you all for your loving devotion to serving our fellowship. If we continue to treat each other with respect, kindness and compassion we cannot go wrong. If you have any questions, comments or concerns please let me know.

Keith H.

Panel 55 Hawaii Area 17 Delegate

**Proposal to Amend
Structure & Guidelines
for the Hawaii Area Assembly
of Alcoholics Anonymous**

Proposal for Budget Approval Process

Proposal:

1. Add S&G section 7.6 to read as follows:

7.6 BUDGET APPROVAL PROCESS

- A. The F.C. distributes the proposed budget at the Inform-the-Delegate Assembly.
- B. The proposed budget is approved by a simple majority at the Budget Assembly.
- C. Once the budget is approved:
 - i. No changes to the budget may be made without three-month's notice unless there is substantial unanimity by the assembly's voters that the proposed budget change constitutes an "emergency";
 - ii. No expenditure can be made which was not included in the budget without three-month's notice unless there is substantial unanimity by the assembly's voters that the proposed expenditure constitutes an "emergency".
- D. As used in Section 7.6, "emergency" is defined as:
 - i. any expense which was unforeseen at the time the budget was approved; and
 - ii. the circumstances requiring the expenditure preclude postponing the approval of the expenditure until the next area assembly.

2. Renumber S&G Section 7.6 to 7.7

**Submitted at the Hawaii Area Assembly in Hilo, Hawaii, April 1-2, 2006
by 12 Coconuts
for consideration by the Hawaii Area at the Budget Assembly to be held
in Honolulu, Hawaii, August 19-20, 2006**

HAWAII AREA 17 COMMITTEE MEETING

Hosted by Central Northshore District Nine

Date: June 17, 2006

Time: 9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

MILILANI DISTRICT PARK
LANIKUHANA AVENUE

Do you need transportation?

REGISTRATION 8:00-9:00 A.M.

Do you have special eating needs?

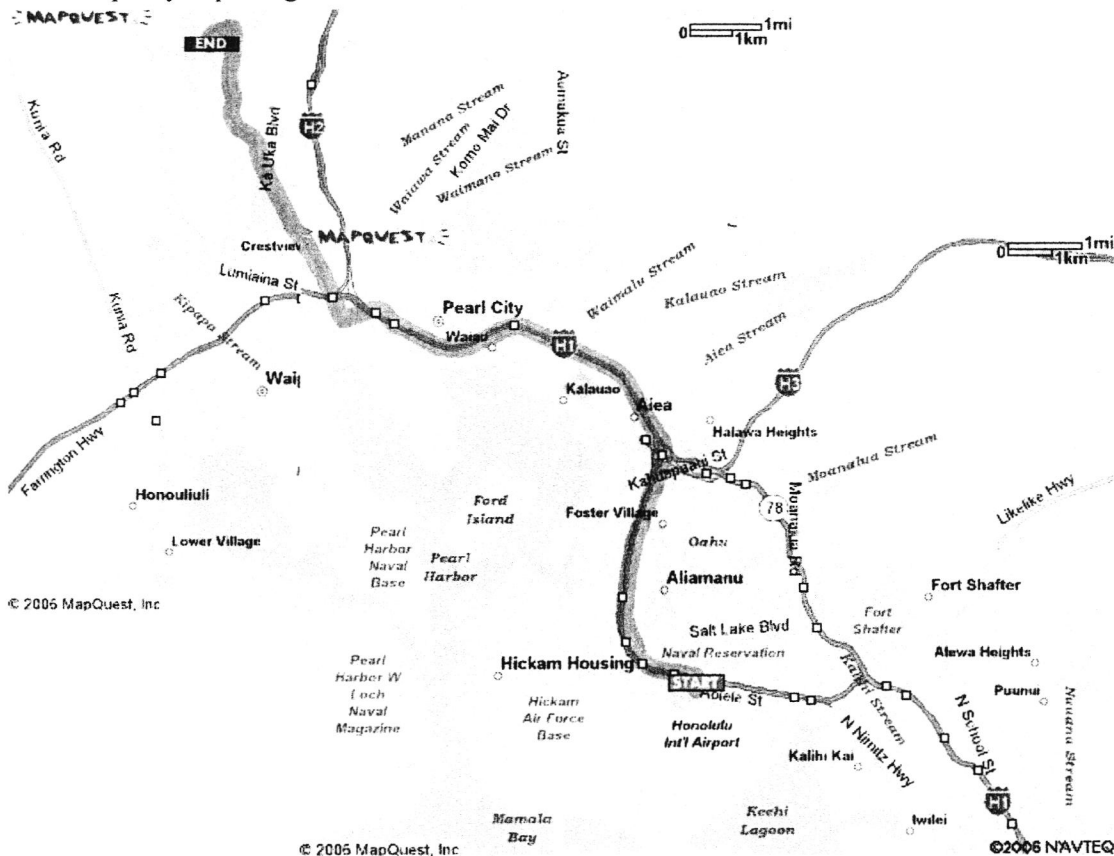
BREAKFAST AT 8:00 A.M.

Do you need home stay?

LUNCH AT 12:00 P.M.

Contact: Val [REDACTED], Needs Coordinator

From the airport take H1 to H2. Take the Ka Uka Exit
At stop light turn left and follow until you come to
Kamehameha Hwy. Turn right and follow until you come to the first traffic light (Lanikuhana Ave.) turn left and go
through 1 stop light. The District Park is about one-half block past the stop light on your right.
There is plenty of parking.



CHAIR/ PRAASA REPORT BACK

I want to thank the Area for sending me to PRAASA, which stands for Pacific Region Alcoholic Anonymous Service Assembly. It is an Assembly that is focused on all aspects of General Service and the topics coming up at the General Service Conference.

The highlight of this PRAASA for me was the Roundtables. I went to the Area Chair Roundtables and met with other chairs in the Pacific region and discussed our positions, challenges that other Areas face and procedures we use. Some Areas have one or two Assemblies a year (Pacific Northwest), other Areas have 2,3 or 4 Assemblies with the Hispanic Area having six Assemblies a year and a District meeting once a week! The Alaska Area also shares our concern with the cost of travel.

Those in service at PRAASA from the Hispanic community in our fellowship are very inspirational and very passionate about service and A.A.

The other highlight for me was being on a panel (Media/Technology). My name was submitted by our Delegate and was honored to give a 10 minute presentation on "Are our P.S.A.S effective?" Since I had never watched a P.S.A. before the whole experience was enlightening. I watched as many P.S.A. s as possible, did research using the background material Keith gave us and talked to G.S.O... I learned a lot about P.S.A, s and the G.S.O. in the process.

The PRAASA program is the theme of the General Service Conference. I learned the General Service board, A.A.W.S. and Grapevine are all incorporated individually and yet work and co-operate with each other with no break in traditions.

The General Service Conference relies on the committee system as the Area does. The committees are made up of Delegates, G.S.O. staff and Trustees. The General Service Conference deals with issues and concerns that come up from the fellowship by individuals, groups, Districts, Assemblies, etc.

The Conference makes decisions by substantial unanimity (2/3) and those decisions are called Advisory Actions. A majority vote would be called a suggestion.

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The Advisory Actions are worked on or carried out by the Trustees committees (C.P.C., P.I., etc.) who meet several times a year. The Trustees come back to the conference next year to report progress on projects given.

This is reason our delegate has structured our "Inform the Delegate" the way he has. This is a more accurate reflection of how the General Service Conference operates.

My experience at PRAASA was uplifting, challenging and I believe helped me to be a better Chair to serve our Area.

There is no price tag on what we have. That psychic change, that transformation that happened to me and all of us. I can see it and feel the miracle but often have no words for it. I am reminded how important unity is. Without unity we have no fellowship. When thinking of a proposed action- will that action foster unity? Will it uplift us and help carry the message to the suffering alcoholic better?

I think I can safely say that in our Assemblies and Committee meetings if we look around in every face is a recovering person who loves A.A. We can be passionate in our discussions and respect each other at the same time. Loving discussion help keep the fellowship healthy but I must never lose touch how important you are to me and we are to each other. I hope in the coming months we can discuss our issues and concerns regarding Area business with the knowledge that nothing in A.A. happens quickly. A thorough discussion and report back to our groups to get their conscience is sometimes essential.

As an individual A.A. member I have many strong opinions and positions on many issues. As Chair of Hawaii area 17 I am like traffic director and try to remain as impartial as possible giving a fair hearing to items of concern to the fellowship and being responsive to the Group Conscience of the Area - the voice of our higher power.

Once again I thank the Area for sending me to PRAASA and look forward to serving our Area as best I can.

In love and service,

Vernon

2006 Inform the Delegate Panels

Sponsorship

Waianae District - Anne Marie, Dawn and Amber (NO WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS GIVEN – UNABLE TO INCLUDE IN THIS SUMMARY)

Changes in the Alcoholic Coming in Today – Kauai District - Shoshanna

The topic I was given, "Changes in the Alcoholic coming into AA today", has no background material. Having attended my first PRAASA (mahalo to my home group whose love, encouragement, and savings sent me), I heard one speaker whose topic was very close to this one. Steve P (Area 05) spoke on "Presenting AA to a Changing Newcomer". Steve says, "the newcomer MIGHT be changing, and he emphasized MIGHT, the AA message has not changed. We expect the newcomer to conform to our message rather than change the message for the newcomer." This presentation is based on my PRAASA experience and networking that followed. Mahalo to Aimee M of District 16, Area 93 for her report. The "survey" that I took on my island, was mostly from the southside meetings. I asked the question to 40 AA members of varying ages and lengths of sobriety ranging from 3 weeks to 30 years. Some of the members were in the revolving door of AA and had been around the program for over 25 years. Before coming into AA, I really didn't know how to talk to people (mostly because I was more interested in me than in you or your responses). AA is teaching me how to reach out and ask for help. By the mere act of asking for people's opinions, I was naturally led to more conversations about AA. Shy, local people started talking to me because I had a question to ask. I see the Unity leg of the triangle happening just because we were talking. Now we were all in Service because of the sharing. Now we were all participating in our Recovery. The "changes" in the newcomer according to this survey were: 1. more court cards 2. crystal meth and other drugs 3. mental illness 4. retreads 5. higher bottoms 6. younger people (because of the man-made drugs being prevalent) with cross addictions 7. rehab/treatment centers 8. dual diagnosis One of our more colorful members said, in regards to the dually addicted and the singleness of purpose, "F...K political correctness! The color of the eggshell may have changed, but the inside stays the same. And it's the inside that got me here!" About dual diagnosis, Steve P stated that "dual diagnosis is defined as a formerly diagnosed mental disorder (such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, or sever depression) in conjunction with an alcohol problem. It is important to recognize tht newcomers may have been informed of their dual diagnosis and think that AA cannot work for them. They can be AA members and recover from alcoholism as long as their recovery is focused on alcoholism. If they should seek other programs or outside help to deal with their non-alcoholism problems, we should lovingly guide them to such help." What I am hearing is that it's socially more acceptable to be in AA today. AA and addictions are more visible in the media (Oprah, Intervention). There is less stigmatism, more meetings, easier to find AA, more love and tolerance, more acceptance, more sharing from the heart. In Hawaii, we are very open and accommodating to the changing face of the newcomer. Almost all our meetings are open meetings - anyone can come. We see more leniencies for sharing of experiences other than alcohol. We see more cross-addictions because AA has a sense of a stronger foundation than NA so that person comes to us for recovery. There were concerns about the treatment centers and their message to their graduates (you are cured). Treatment centers are a medical model and profit-based. They believe that there is a problem and that it can be fixed. Two Canadian members told of their son who went to a treatment center there and was told that he now has the equivalent of 5 years of sobriety. Treatment centers have taken over the role of AA. Social services have stepped in and direct people to where they are to go for help/recovery. The Canadian social services calls it a "Harm Reduction Model" where there used to be zero-tolerance and now they want you to "use" less. In London, the Harm Reduction Model allows women to have 14 drinks / week and men 21/week. The suggestions that i heard included: 1. need more 12 step / one-to-one work 2. Need to help the dually addicted "link" their drugs w/ alcoholism 3. Need to be more educated on the drug problems in order to deal w/ it better 4. Need to find/reach out to the newcomer 5. Need to get more involved in treatment centers 6. Need more employer referrals (people are getting injured on the job due to drugs and alcohol and not referred) 7. encourage the newcomer to seek the "right" meeting for them in order to get the most out of it 8. Mixed addictions should be welcomed and made to feel comfortable whatever their addiction - even if they are AA in NA or NA in AA 9. Dual addictions CAN find a solution to their drinking problem 10. Need to discuss how to deal with people with other problems 11. Dually addicted should seek a sponsor with similar problems In closing, I would like to share 2 quotes. One from my "big brother" who has much knowledge and

determination and a strong position of singleness of purpose is (now has less than 30 days, this time, and has been around the program for 26 years ...believes in the program and somehow keeps coming back): "we are faced with the greatest challenge in AA history and it is our duty to turn it into an opportunity to work the true spiritual principles of the program." And lastly, our Third Tradition ensures that AA is always inclusive, never exclusive. In "Who is a Member of Alcoholics Anonymous" (August 1946), Bill W. wrote: "So it is that few of us are any longer afraid of what any newcomer can do to our AA reputation or effectiveness. Those who slip, those who panhandle, those who scandalize, those with mental twists, those who rebel at the program, those who trade on the AA reputation - all such persons seldom harm an AA group for long. Some of these have become our most respected and best loved. Some have remained to try our patience, sober nevertheless. Others have drifted away. We have begun to regard these ones not as menaces, but rather as our teachers. They oblige us to cultivate patience, tolerance and humility."

Questions and Sharing: Addressing Changes to the Alcoholics coming into AA, once again I would like to emphasize that there is going to be a huge population of elderly coming into AA. Court papers is one of the changes that is tearing my Homegroup apart (Keith - how do other areas address the court paper issue?)

Service

Performing Service without Expectations – East Hawaii District – Kathy

Here in the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous, I have heard people say that an expectation is nothing more than a premeditated resentment. In fact, the definition of expect is "to consider it probable or certain" – dangerous ground for an alcoholic like me. And in the Big Book it tells me that resentments destroy more alcoholics than anything else, clearly something to try to avoid. Service is a cornerstone of my sobriety. I have been in service almost continually since I was shanghaied into a secretary / literature position at just about 30 days sober. My original reason for agreeing to do anything for you people was that I wanted to get you to like me. Plus I was too afraid to say no to anything that might advance my cause or earn brownie points. So you see I really did have expectations attached to performing service. My AA service resume basically consists of several meeting secretary rotations, coffee maker, literature and alternate GSR positions. I also volunteered at the Convention and I have been privileged to share my experience, strength and hoe at a few DUI classes in the women's correctional facility, at a couple treatment facilities and at more than a few different AA meetings. In addition, I frequently pick up women in recovery who don't have transportation and take them to meetings. I'd like to tell you that my heart was full of selfless love whenever I said yes to these service commitments, that my reasons for giving of myself were true at every turn, but that would be a lie. Many times I said yes because I felt it was what I had to do. I said yes because my sponsor "suggested" it – which was actually her way of giving a gentle command. Somewhere along the way I got that I was approaching it all wrong. I figured out that being in service kept me connected to you, and you were teaching me about living sober and helping me find my way to God. I learned that being in service helped me to build self-esteem (something I was sorely lacking), that whenever I made a service commitment to you and was able to uphold my end of the bargain, I was growing and that was a good thing. I have been able to grow to the point of not performing service in the hopes that it would make me friends, gain your respect or advance my career, but because it is simply the next right thing to do. The best awareness for me, though, came when my sponsor told me that being in service – any kind of service, in AA or out – was one of the few ways that I was going to be able to repay God for the grace he has continually bestowed upon me. I am grateful for that, because standing here before you today I certainly feel like I owe a debt of gratitude to God and AA that I would like to repay in any way possible, so this morning I want to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to pay back just a little to God and to Alcoholics Anonymous.

Service with No Expectations – East Hawaii District – Kathleen

I was asked to speak this morning on service and having no expectations from it. I had to laugh when I was first approached because of course I had an expectation. I expected to stay sober. It's one of the few times my expectation of something has panned out the way I wanted and been positive. I have been able to stay sober since I started this journey and I'm so grateful for the people that went before me that drilled in me to get into service. I went to a treatment center where most of the counselors were in recovery. Many of them belonged to groups that were very service oriented. Early on I was told over and over that service would keep you sober and I was so scared of drinking again I listened to what they told me to do. When I got out of the center and got a sponsor she said that they had a service position opening at a Monday night meeting she went to. She said they would be looking for a coffee maker. I told her I won't be able to take that position

because I hadn't done cigarettes cans yet. I was told in treatment you start by doing that and getting humble. She said they would make an exception. And so I started my service commitments. I have been in service ever since. Today I am part of the district committee. I distribute literature to schools, hospitals and institutions. I have the good fortune of meeting people in the community that have told me how grateful they are to receive the literature. It goes faster that I can keep it stocked. Which I hope means it's getting to the suffering alcoholics. I'm grateful to be a small part of carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. I have always carried a piece of literature with me since I've gotten sober. Sometimes I need to read a pamphlet to remember what and who I am.

Responsibility with Accountability -

Tell your trusted servant what the responsibilities are. The first time I became treasurer, I took the money home every week and put it on my desk. Soon I had a pile of money, but I didn't know what to do with it. One evening, after the meeting, I told a group member. She took over the treasurers position, I gave her the money, and that was that. The next group I was treasurer for had written instructions that told me when to make splits, how much to send, and where to send it. They had a bank account, and a written record of past contributions. At each home group meeting, I gave a treasurers report. Although I didn't know anything about GSO, Area, Intergroup, and District, I followed their instructions. Fill service positions with people who are good for the group, and for AA as a whole. I still don't have a firm opinion regarding the "we'll take what we can get," and the "it will help them get sober" methods of filling service positions. One time, a GSR used group money to rent a motorcycle for an assembly. He went out. Another time, a group treasurer had financial problems and used hundreds from the basket to pay her own bills. She eventually made amends and paid us back. Whatever the outcome, when a mess happens, its time to ask, "What is wrong with AA that we've allowed this to happen?" When people flounder in their service positions, they are not getting the gift, so help out. This is another bit of wisdom from my sponsor. She said that I don't really know what it's like until I've held that service position. So look for one thing the person does right, ask God to show me how I can be helpful, and ask the person if they need help. Maybe that person is doing their best. If I have ideas of what I'd do differently, become familiar with the duties and responsibilities and stand for that service position the next time around. Otherwise, say the Serenity Prayer and be grateful they are willing to serve.

Responsibility with Accountability – No Ka Oi District – Clifford

Our panel topic is Responsibility with Accountability. When a few of us met this past week to prepare and discuss this topic we found out that the informational cd was 500+ pages and there was no specific information on Responsibility with Accountability. Thank you Francesca. Now what? Why have we started so late? We will never get this done. We will be embarrassed. Then we went to work. We had a great discussion and here is our presentation, sharing our experiences on this topic. The first thing I did was look up the definitions of Responsibility and Accountability. One definition of Responsibility is "The obligation to answer for actions. The recognition that in order to achieve one's purposes, one must act oneself ("take" responsibility) rather than expecting others to do something." A definition I found for Accountability is that it is "the aspects of responsibility involving giving a statistical or judicial explanation for events. Judgment may follow." "In politics, and particularly in representative democracies, accountability is an important factor in securing good governance." "The goal of accountability is at times in tension with the goal of leadership. A constituency may have short-term desires which are at odds with long-term interests." Now that all of you understand Responsibility and Accountability I'll share a personal experience. I was about two years sober when I took the responsibility as secretary of a small meeting held on Thursday nights in haiku. It was thanksgiving day (Thursday) and I was at our thanksgiving Alkathon and I just happened or God just happened to open my mouth telling the right person at the right time "maybe I don't need to open the meeting tonight, it's a holiday, everyone's here, no one will show up". Judgment followed! I really don't want to get into what was said but I did open the meeting that night and Christmas night and new years night which just so happened to fall on Thursday's that year. I am so glad that judgment followed **after my decision and not my action**. I had the opportunity to correct my decision. Correcting decisions are a lot easier than correcting actions. The lesson I learned in being responsible and accountable has and is carrying me through my service in A.A.

Questions and Sharing: None

Self Support

Gratitude through Self-Sacrifice – Windward District – Rick

Okay, so I'll put two dollars in the basket whenever I attend an AA meeting. I'll even send in an annual contribution to GSO of one dollar for each year that I've been sober. That way I will be sure I've shown my gratitude through self-sacrifice. After all, I've just committed to sacrificing two dollars for each meeting that I attend and one dollar for each year that I've been sober. That is how I'll offer my support to the fellowship, through sacrificing some of my hard earned dollars. Right? Wrong. Support also has to do with sharing, humility, self-respect, gratitude and what we are privileged to give. There are many ways to support this fellowship that do not directly give money. We have always faced problems of money, property and prestige in some form but we should never be diverted from our primary purpose of carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. To assure that the hand of AA remains outstretched, money and spirituality must continue to mix, and for that I am responsible. So I should remember that AA in action calls for a little money and a lot of time and I sacrifice both with the gratitude of a man who has been given a new life through the fellowship and God. I show my gratitude, offering my service by participating in the third legacy and practicing in twelfth step work. Working with others, sharing at meetings, getting in service at my home group, attending group consciences, district meetings, Area assemblies, attending prison meetings, and even putting together presentations like this are some of the ways that I show my immense gratitude to AA through the sacrifice of some of my time and energy. And I must say that it has been proven to be well worth the sacrifice.

Self Support - An Informed Group Conscience – C. North Shore – Hugh

I asked around the fellowship and at meetings and received answers as what are you talking about, or Money – everyone needs more money, Group Conscience what is that. So I was amazed at how a lot of people did not know about Self Support an informed Group conscience. I asked myself did I know when I came into A.A., NO I did not know and did not care, all I cared about was me and staying sober 1 more day. Today I understand, however that was from working steps with a sponsor and getting a home group and getting into service. I ask myself each day how can I get others involved in service? So what does Self Support Mean? Alcoholics Anonymous supporting itself through its members, by way of contributions during the 7th Tradition, Donations to GSO, DISTRICT, INTERGROUP, and AREA. Birthday Contributions. Seems like a lot, but for me it is not a lot. I think of how much I spent on Alcohol. Then I think about how much A.A. has given freely. A.A. Gave me my life I have today, which is a lot. The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. (Self Support Pamphlets). With the realization the A.A. must steer clear of outside contributions in order to maintain its autonomy and independence came the understanding that the money necessary for A.A.'s survival would have to come from individual A.A. members and groups. As Bill W. put it in 1957, "Our spiritual way of life is safe for future generations if, as a Society, we resist the temptation to receive money from the outside world. But this leaves us with a responsibility – one that every member ought to understand. Our groups, our areas, and A.A. as a whole will not function unless our services are sufficient and their bills are paid. (Self Support Pamphlets) When we pass the bucket at my home group I usually put in 5 dollars, and by starting this I have done this at all meetings I attend. This is just for me. So going to 5 meetings a week costs me 25.00? I do not look at it like that, I look at it as I go to meetings to stay sober, being that works for me, I get into service to get out of self and to have a commitment which has by far expanded my outlook in A.A. and in life. So putting 5 dollars in the basket to me is no such a big deal, I know people will put what they want to or can afford to. I came to A.A. via the Court Papers, slowly I learned more and more about A.A. I am here because I do not want to go back to where I came from. A.A. is free to everyone. I have learned in A.A. that to give freely in this disease – That I will get so much more back in my life thus far this has been true. Informed Group Conscience is the collective conscience of the group membership and thus represents substantial unanimity on an issue before definitive action is taken. This is achieved by the group members through the sharing of full information, individual points of view, and the practice of A.A. principles. To be fully informed requires a willingness to listen of minority opinions with an open mind. The result rests on more than a "yes" or "no" count – precisely because it is the spiritual expression of the group conscience. The term "informed group conscience" implies that pertinent information has been studied and all views have been heard before the group votes. Taken from the Pamphlet "The A.A. Group"

Where Money Meets Spirituality – C. North Shore – Tom

In tradition 3, the long form states "Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse no one who wishes to recover. Nor ought AA membership ever depend upon money of

conformity. Any 2 or 3 alcoholics gathered for sobriety may call themselves an AA group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation. Although my home group is very small we contribute money through out the 4 major sectors. We are not a wealthy home group, so we don't have camp outs, dances, barbeques – although I try to participate in some of the home groups around the island that do hold these activities even though I am relatively new to this to AA and to this level of service. I feel blessed that my home group has been able to let me attend first the budget assembly on Kauai, which was my first big AA event. Just recently I had a death in my family. My younger brother died from this disease. It just so happened that I was able to attend the PRAASA March 3rd, 4th and 5th in Woodland Hills, CA. I didn't even know what PRAASA meant. I found the flier at my home group the day I was flying over to bury my brother. So I thought I would attend the convention to keep myself busy while in California because that's where so much of the wreckage of my past was. It turned out to be such a blessing because there just happened to be 40 other members of Alcoholics Anonymous from Hawaii there, and it turned out I knew a lot of them. And if that isn't spiritual, I don't know what is. Now this is where money meets spirituality. After I returned home to the islands, I asked my home group since I represented them as the Alt GSR at PRAASA, even though I was there for a different reason. I asked to be reimbursed for the money that I spent. I took this to the group conscience, and they voted to give me a partial reimbursement. And that, my friends, is where money and spirituality has recently touched my life through the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is truly a blessing to be a member of this fantastic fellowship. Its truly a miracle that I'm with you today and not my brother.

Self Support An Informed Group Conscience –C. North Shore - Joe G.

My first impression, of this topic, as listed on the agenda, seemed like a two part presentation. Leading me to think, this is easy, I'll share on, "An Informed Group conscience." As I sent a copy of my presentation to my DCM, and Area Secretary. I was informed, that the presentation is one part. So, I became Powerless, over the presentation and I came to believe, that, my personality interfered, failing me, to see the spiritual principle, of the presentation. In making my decision, to continue on with participating. I took it to my group, First, I had to consider, how to ask for the, specific airfare, reimbursement. Then, for the conscience of the presentation. Keeping in mind that, the members of my group, are new to general service. To include myself, we are made up of five voting members to form the conscience. I am so proud of my group, as they are eager to learn and willing to be informed. Their expectations, for me to be better prepared, by bringing copies of proposals, topics, presentations or agenda items. So our group, may be better informed, in the future. The subject of money, can be a very touchy. I remember, my first Area Assembly, with eighteen months of sobriety. Waianae, was hosting, the Budget Assembly. I was an Alternate GSR for my group. On Saturday, at days end I was so confused, the discussions at the microphone, were long, foggy and boring. I heard the term, "Trust The Process," from those AA's in the immediate area, from where I was sitting. I wasn't returning Sunday. Sunday, morning, the registrar, said to me says, ready for round two Today, should be better. We will be voting on agenda items, my GSR was absent, so that meant I had a vote. I had no clue, about what an agenda item, was. So I sat, next to those AA's again. One women in the front of me was crocheting, and selling PRAASA, buttons. She says to me, if you don't understand, just trust the process, stand be counted for and keep coming back. That, I did and because of that, I learned the process of the, "Third Legacy, Service." A quote from "The Daily Reflections", "AA's freedoms". [The AA program of recovery rests on a foundation of free choice. There are no mandates, laws or commandments. AA's spiritual program, as outlined in the Twelve Steps, and by which I am offered even greater freedoms, is only suggested. I can take it or leave it

7th Tradition

The seventh tradition states every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. Many groups even further explain that the money collected by seventh tradition goes to pay for coffee, rent, literature, coins as well as contributions to Area, District, Intergroup and GSO. For myself and many AAs the basket that is passed around presents an opportunity to express our gratitude for a place to go in our times of hardship, the place where many of us have come to find our many means of sober support, real friends, sponsors and even extended family. Let's not forget where we've learned our new way of living that has not only improved, but saved our lives as well. The amount of money put in the basket varies from person to person and there is no set amount I have come across fliers that promote the increase of the amount. For

those who cannot afford, the important thing is to keep coming back. After all it would be difficult to put a price on life long sobriety.

Self Sacrifice through special contribution envelopes – Windward - Laurie

Research by Rosemary and Laurie from S24 of the A.A. Service Manual. General Service Office (G.S.O.) in New York provide services to ensure that the A.A. message is carried around the world. It became apparent that there was an imbalance between expenses and revenue; two thirds of funds required to provide services were lacking. The problem continues. Currently 46% of registered groups contribute to G.S.O. Each registered group need only contribute \$188/year to keep G.S.O. fully supported. Literature sales were a solution to make up for this deficit. However, the revenues from selling A.A. approved literature were no longer enough to make up the difference, resulting in a recent increase for cost of literature. Since the 1955 Conference approved the Birthday Plan many members have supported G.S.O.'s services to groups across Canada and the United States. On their A.A. birthdays each year, group members make their personal contributions. It is suggested that members may express gratitude for sobriety by sending the birthday envelope to G.S.O. Some members send a dollar a year for each year of sobriety they have enjoyed. Others use a figure of \$3.65, a penny a day, for each year. Some give more, but not to exceed \$2,000 per year. The contributions are Federal Tax deductible. Another special contribution can be made by groups in the Twelfth Step envelope. G.S.O. accepts contributions only from A.A. members and groups. This special collection is sent to New York to help ensure that the simple A.A. message is available anywhere, anytime, in more than 75 languages. In memoriam contributions honor the memory of a deceased member. A one-time bequest may be arranged. As a grateful alcoholic whose life has continually changed in a positive direction, I have much to return to the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is not self-sacrifice, but rather, a small way of giving back.

Questions and Sharing: None

Cooperation with the Professional Community

Skit - Colin, Michael, Claire, Betsy, Doug

Questions and Sharing: I hang around hospitals a lot, and there is more and more information being given on alcoholism. I would like to see more CD's. They are a great tool. I recently received a communication from a group inquiring about CPC information, and I contacted GSO. There was a question about attracting rather than promotion. This is attraction. I would like to see someone read the pamphlets, record and post it on the web site so it can be listened to online or downloaded (I WOULD LIKE TO SEE OUR DELEGATE TAKE THIS SUGGESTION TO THE GSC) Keith - These are questions that will be discussed at the GSC this year, and it sounds like we are in favor of this. Thank You for the skit, I loved it. We have a CPC display and sign up sheets set up here this weekend, please check it out. There are CD materials available through the Grapevine. The Grapevine is also an excellent way to get information to Professionals. We are planning a luncheon that is paid for through 7th Tradition, and to which we invite professionals in the community. I have introduced AA to local doctors and been well received. I have not heard anyone address communicating with Law Enforcement. I spent a lot of years working in the Corrections field, and they could use the message carried to them. How do we define professional? Are we carrying the message to bartenders? Are they professionals? This is where our alcoholics can be found.

Finance

Where Money and Spirituality Mix – West Maui – Michael G.

Acceptance of outside contributions with no stated purpose is unwise and highly dangerous and will destroy our spiritual heritage. The pivotal moment when the seed of the 7th Tradition took was when John D. Rockefeller Jr. threw Bill W. the monkey wrench and said outside contributions will spoil AA. The foundation must come from within. Our generosity in the basket represents our level of gratitude for our blessings. We are tangibly willing to be an open channel of domino effect blessings reaching alcoholics still suffering. Self-support launches the "miracles" of AA 12th step work efficiently and success is the constant goal of upgrade. We must foot the bill to ensure that every aspect of AA functions in full strength. AA in action calls for the sacrifice of much time and a little money to ensure "The Hand of AA" will always remain out stretched. The pie chart works, but all groups are autonomous.

Questions and Sharing: At one time my Homegroup was not participating in a pie split, and that affected my contributions. I was wondering about what other think about that. Being informed is very important, and I believe this is why only 46% of groups contribute at GSO. I think groups that are paying shouldn't be asked to contribute more, but better inform the non-contributing groups. My group's conscious is that we support our Area due to our unique transportation costs and to support our Standing Committees. We changed our percentages to: 30 GSO and Area, 20 District and Intergroup. I don't contribute for personal recognition; I do it to support AA. I would like to see the pie chart changed; I think we should inform groups how much it costs GSO for each group. Being informed is the key issue here. As informed members, it's our responsibility to inform groups and members. This pamphlet needs to be a high priority, with frequent updates and more money budgeted towards it. This is a highly used pamphlet. Find out your groups' service number, this is how your group gets credited for 7th tradition

International Conventions / Special Forums

Manoa District Presentation Regional/Special Forums

1. Yes, the special and regional forums are useful providing information and insight to how the General Service Board, A.A. World Services Inc., the A.A. Grapevine Corporate Board, the Grapevine staff, and the General Service Office Staff work. The information is most useful because it is direct and not secondhand or interpreted. The forums are valuable for the presentations, sharing and workshops. The relationships are a valuable tool for groups requesting information, experience, strength, and hope from the trustees, GSO and others. 2. Hawaii has had good participation in these forums with about 10% of our statewide fellowship attending. 3. There are a number of ways we can encourage participation at the forums. Sponsorship is the first way we can attract. Secondly we share our experiences with the forums at our service assemblies, district meetings and homegroups. These are opportunities for growth in our personal recovery and in our service commitments.

Questions and Sharing: Area is sending Keith and Vernon to the Pacific Regional Forum in June. If you have any questions for the GSO staff or trustees, please email to them and they will pass them on at the Forum. How do we take General Service to the AA masses? I had lunch with Elaine [REDACTED] during the Special Forum over on Maui, and I didn't even know who she was until after the fact.

Literature

Pamphlet for Central Office - Waikiki District – Jeff and Darlene

Con: Based on the background information this has been up for discussion in 4 times over the past 20 years, and each time the committee declined to approve a pamphlet for Central Offices. Pro: There were 17 letters sent to Rick Walker from across the United States with the majority stating "Intergroup feels strongly that a pamphlet of this nature is needed". WE hope that the Trustees Literature Committee will agree to forward our request to the Conference Literature Committee for their consideration. I took this back to my home group and they are in favor of having this pamphlet made. Please implement a plan to compose a similar letter to Rick Walker (Coordinator of the Conference Literature Committee) from our Area 17 Delegate. Proposal to discontinue pamphlet "Letter to a Woman Alcoholic" The issue before us is whether or not to retire the pamphlet "Letter to a Woman Alcoholic". This issue was placed on the Conference Committee Agenda as the result of a letter written by a member of Area 78, Alberta, Canada, who feels that it should be retired. The objections are four fold. I'll simply present the cons and pros. Firstly, it is felt that it is inappropriate because it was written by a non-alcoholic "who claims to know and understand alcoholic women". We direct your attention to page 255 in "Dr. Bob and the Good Old Timers" - Anne Smith, a non alcoholic, is quoted as saying "in order to know someone's feelings you had to walk a mile in his shoes". The author of "Letter to a Woman Alcoholic" walked many miles in the shoes of alcoholic women. The Canadian letter states and I quote, "as far as I know it is the only piece of AA literature which is not written by alcoholics for alcoholics. The author of that letter is apparently unaware that much of our literature has been written by non-alcoholics, and, indeed, we have seven Class A (non-alcoholic) trustees. The Jack Alexander article that was written in 1941, 13 years earlier, was instrumental in advancing awareness of AA and is part of our treasured literature. The beginning of the other pamphlet for women, "AA for the Woman", is a bank of questions about alcohol consumption taken from an Ann Landers article, also a non-alcoholic. Retiring the pamphlet on the basis of being written by a non-alcoholic would seem to be without merit. Secondly, it is felt that Letter to a Woman Alcoholic" is outdated because it was published in 1954. The Big Book was published in 1939. Although

stories have changed, the first 164 pages have not. Is it therefore outdated and in need of retirement? Thirdly, there is objection to the "flowery" language. As Marianne H. pointed out in her PRAASA presentation on the subject, the language is quite reminiscent of the language in the first 164 pages of the Big Book. Again, that seems to be a groundless reason to retire any of our Conference approved literature. Fourthly, the author of the Canadian letter objects to the observation in "Letter to a Woman Alcoholic" that women who became sober also became more attentive to their looks. Once again, precedence for this sort of observation can be found in the Big Book on page nine (among others) when Bill remarks that his friend is "fresh skinned and glowing". When the quote that is cited as objectionable has been read to AAs of our acquaintance, both men and women, the response has been, to a person, "Well, it's true!" We submit that, again, this is a groundless reason to retire this or any other Conference approved literature. Included with background material for this Agenda item is a chart showing a decline over the past 10 years in the English and Spanish distribution of this pamphlet. It also shows that the French version has skyrocketed. Do we deprive our French sisters of this valuable pamphlet? At PRAASA, two women were able to get to the mike after Marianne's presentation and both related that "Letter to a Woman Alcoholic" was instrumental in their recovery. Others, both with time and newcomers, have maintained that it was significant in their recovery and that both pamphlets for women have their place. The only difference between them is that they approach the subject from different perspectives. The message is the same in both and both, in our opinion, are needed. We hope that the Conference will agree.

Should we be concerned about making a pamphlet that may contain outside issue? (Religion and spirituality) – Diamond Head District

Makahiki Lanai – GSR Report, Rae: My group felt that this would be considered "outside issues?" Tradition 10 -- no aa group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate aa express any opinion on outside controversial issues---particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The alcoholic's anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatsoever. • Therefore, it was the group's decision that we do not need a pamphlet on religion and spirituality. Sick & Twisted – GSR Report, Mike: • We all think that the literature we have already explains how aa is a spiritual program and that our primary purpose can be better served by using the potential pamphlet's funds for the provision of big books, translations of, etc. • We agreed unanimously that spending money on a pamphlet who's topic that is already covered sufficiently in our literature and so obviously implied at meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous that it would be unnecessary and a waste of resources. Palolo Discussion – GSR Report, Adina: • Palolo Discussion voted to approve the creation of a pamphlet on AA spirituality vs. religion 8 to 1. The main reason for agreement was they felt this could be a vehicle to include more new comers in AA. The one individual, who voted against, was concerned that all literature would need to be revised to accommodate the revised "spiritual interpretation". Pioneer Group – GSR Report, Roland: • We took a vote, no! All the way across the board! The reasons were we have been doing this thing for over 60 years without it so why start now! And I did not have an answer. So not many people showed up/at least home group member's big turnout otherwise, so it was 4 against, 0 for, 0 in the middle, thanks for being in service. Spiritual Awakening – GSR Report, Rochelle: • After reading the background notes for the 56th General Service Conference and contemplating the points made by Eric of the Eastside Sunrise group in Portland in his PRASSA presentation on Agenda Item J related to the topic at hand, on behalf of A Spiritual Awakening, we advocate that District 1 take the position that no action be taken on the request to develop a pamphlet concerning A.A., religion and spirituality. The reasons are that enough is said in Step 3, that enough is mentioned in other A.A. literature, and that it is an inside rather than an outside job. We do not believe there is enough pressure out there to "bind" us nor is a matter of "fear" that prevents us from testing the market. We do however feel the reservation that the time is not yet ripe.

Questions and Sharing: A pamphlet relating to Central Office / Intergroup would dignify the relation between Intergroup and General Service Structure. My group said to ask the women if we should discontinue "Letter to a Woman Alcoholic". When I read it I found it to be like a in depth conversation with an intellectual woman. I hope it remains. There has been an overwhelming request for a Central Office / Intergroup pamphlet from the fellowship in Canada and the United States. All of our principles are spiritual, so why shouldn't we have a pamphlet Q. Why cant religious put out a pamphlet telling their story to those religious trying to stay sober? A. This is not the purpose of the proposed pamphlet. The High Court in New York has deemed AA as a religion, so perhaps this pamphlet is needed. The judges were not convinced that AA was NOT a religion after reading our current literature. Doing DUI panels to first time offenders, they always say that they feel uncomfortable because they see AA as a religion. I don't think AA needs to defend themselves to the Courts. This issue has

been brought up for years, and is not in response to any court decision.

Public Information

Membership Survey – Honolulu District – David

Having read the 2004 Survey, it seems to me we are missing a great opportunity. First, why have a survey at all? In the 12x12, Bill W. alleges a number of generalities about AA members, eg. were AA's "just as capable of endurance and valor as any other soldiers" in World War II (p. 38)? Do "most married folks in AA have very happy homes (p. 117)? Do "most alcoholics in AA have an earning power considerably above average" (p. 121)? How the hell would Bill really know these things? Anecdotal evidence meant more when AA was small, one supposes. But more to the point are any of those contentions more or less true today than they were then? Certainly we won't find out by using the crude and ineffectual methods that produced the 2004 Survey, which included passing out questionnaires at AA meetings. Modern survey techniques would involve scientific sampling techniques with professional workers calling fellowship members at home and questioning them at length, completely assuring anonymity. In the background material (PI information item B, background doc. 1), it's clear that trustees and board members are very leery of offending members by the questions posed (eg., they've decided not to ask about the extent of members' drug use). Such questions might well be offensive when presented at meetings by AA members, but not when wrapped into a well designed survey questionnaire presented by a pro over the phone. At the latest area assembly, there was considerable worry about 1) whether we should be learning anything about ourselves at all, and 2) whether it might hurt our reputation to have some of our findings divulged publicly. If we're going to conduct membership surveys at all (and we have every three years since 1968), why be just a little bit pregnant? Why not conduct surveys that are really productive, answering such questions as those drawn from the 12x12 above. Second, there's no reason that all of the information harvested from a good survey need be made fully public. Much of it can be reserved for the use of trusted servants who are trying to target literature (brochures, TV spots and the like) in an effective manner. Much can be used so that we can more effectively inform members of the professional community. It's very important to ask many of the same questions with each survey, so that changes over time can be tracked and interpreted.

Membership Survey – Puna District – Eleanor

An AA member is seeking to feel "included" an AA by submitting a request for a sexual orientation section in the membership survey. I have great compassion for her feelings of rejection and understand her need for inclusion. However, the frustration she voices comes from other sources. She is seeking to find a place for homosexuality in a culture which professes homosexuality on the surface while severely judging other practices. AA is not a forum to raise such issues. Just how much one's sexuality differs from the norm falls into the category of external factors, and includes race, creed and marital status. We are included in AA by a nature of our three fold illness and common anguish, there are no external factors which define us. There is only personal progress and a sane, sober life of usefulness. Love and tolerance is our code. A sober person feels included and experiences self-respect and dignity. These are internal factors. This is a program of attraction rather than promotion. The ego defines us by what we have, what we do, and other external factors. There is no need to inform the public about who we are as defined by egoism agendas. By creating such a survey for demographics we move away from Singleness of Purpose. In AA we teach by example of honesty, sobriety, love and serenity; by living a life based on the 12 steps and 12 traditions. Inform the public about that. AS Dr Bob said "Keep It Simple". Speak about personal progress reflected in the lives of members and how they contribute to society, to be free of our alcoholism; we must be in the world but not of it, living by our spiritual principles. The world may be in constant change and evolution; the principles of our recovery do not. As always, we place spiritual principles before external issues of personality and ego. I'd like to end with a quote from Carl Sandburg "Whenever a society or civilization fails, there is always one condition present; they forgot where they came from".

Questions and Sharing: This survey walks a fine line between promotion rather attraction, and being a resource for professionals who utilize statistics. The marital status categories all cater to married: Never Married, Divorced, Separated or Married. Those of us who don't fit into any of those are being lost in the void. Maybe this questions needs to be revised, and a new question added. If AA restores families, let's have that as a question. Why don't we include everything that we state in the Preamble into the survey; this is what we do, and here's the proof. Our survey doesn't need to be a serious scientific report. As a Panel 47 Delegate, I talked to Class A Trustees about this "stupid survey" (my thinking), and they shared with me that as

professionals, and said it was a helpful outline of AA. There are no new issues in AA, they are just recycled.

CHAIR REPORT

Aloha to all of Area 17,

It continues to be a privilege and honor to serve as your Area 17 Chair. I am grateful to A.A. and you my recovery family for the life I now enjoy as a sober man.

I have recently returned from Seattle attending my first Regional Forum as your Chair. I have prepared a written report that goes into detail on my experience there. The Forum was very uplifting and educational. I am hopefully a better trusted servant because of it.

Like all others Areas we face our challenges. By now everyone had received the letter sent out by our treasurer regarding our funds. As I understand there has already been a very positive response. This Assembly we will be discussing and voting on our proposed Budget for 2007. I know that when the discussion about money comes up often buttons get pressed and strong emotions arise. I am sure that everyone present wants the best for Area 17. We just don't always agree on how that looks. I would just ask that we all remember to respect one another. We are all one recovery family and doing the very best we can. Unity is so important to us. Without Unity there would be no fellowship. I look forward to lively and healthy discussion.

For those attending their first Area Assembly, I welcome you to General Service. At the Assembly we conduct the Business of Area 17. As a business meeting and we loosely follow Roberts Rules of Order. There will be a handout available called Rules of Debate. In January 2003 the Area by group conscience decided to adopt this format to facilitate conducting our business.

As most everyone knows by now that the October Committee Meeting has been cancelled. At our last Committee Meeting Jerry, our treasurer had informed us that our contributions had decreased and that some cost cutting needed to happen so that is one of the actions we are taking. I did this not lightly as coming together is very important for Unity and to conduct Area business. We will be discussing the proposed Budget for 2007 that will reflect proposed changes in spending. Travel costs are proposed for the Delegate and Chair as well as some others as needed. As of this writing no Money will be cut from the Standing Committees. On a brighter note, the Committees doing great - are alive , well and very busy doing the work they were set up to do.

As we draw close to the end of this panel I would just encourage all those in Area Service to attend the November Election Assembly. I would encourage all those interested to consider standing or making yourself available for service. General Service for me continues to be both challenging and rewarding at the same time. I can never repay the debt I owe to A.A. As we draw closer to the last part of our panel I would encourage everyone to maintain our level of enthusiasm and commitment. GSRs, DCMs are the link of communication between the group, Area and GSO. It is vitally important that the Group Conscience of your Group, District and our Area be heard.

If you have an Assembly in your district, it is very important to provide a flyer to the Area so that your registration fees can be paid and pick up the sound equipment, transporting it to your District. That is part of the responsibility of having the Assembly.

I thank everyone for their Service and sacrifice of time this week-end. It is exciting being a part of the process and in the solution.

In Service,

Vernon G.

Kauai DCM's report, and listening to all the Standing Committee work that's getting accomplished in his district. What about the budgets for these Committees? Will it be taken out of the Area budget? Yes. The Area does not generate money; all of our money comes from 7th tradition, from the home groups. When I was DCM, we had trouble filling our service positions. I need to know more before I make a decision on this topic. It costs about \$13,000 to fly all of us here this weekend! I am a Standing Committee Chair, and I hold a committee meeting monthly on Oahu, and last meeting there were 4 people in attendance. There are a lot of Alcoholics that will fall through the cracks if it is left to the Districts. We are considered a remote community. The main goal of the General Service Structure was to promote unity. Our district has 5 treatment centers, and our budget averages about \$1,000. There is no way we could service these facilities without Area's help. This is the nature of living in Hawaii. In the District of Hilo, we need help. We have a general manager in New York from Hawaii, and I don't think this ever would have happened if we wouldn't have gone to the lengths and expenses we do to send our area servants. Kauai DCM rephrased his report, his District Chairs are nonexistent, and what little they have would be lost without the Area Committee Chairs. I am completely against this restructuring. I remember when the Treatment Committee Area chair started Bridging the Gap and I remember how helpful it was. What would Area become without the Standing Committees? Would Area disband? When I first began Area service, I paid my own way, which I didn't have a problem with doing. Progress is forward, never backwards. People went out of their way to help me get sober, nobody cared where I lived or how much money I had. When we get so into money in our discussions in AA, I think we are being diverted from our primary purpose. It's easy for me to not take stuff personally in Alcoholics Anonymous, each group is autonomous. The real problem is that our budget has remained the same for 10 years, we need to figure how we can raise contributions. We will still have to get together to Inform our Delegate. Money and spirituality do mix, but we need to have both of the components.

Chris called the question

Floyd seconded

We are voting to vote.

In favor: 69

Opposed: 3

Vote

In favor: 4

Opposed: everyone else (by Area body's consensus, not counting off)

Minority: We still haven't addressed the issue about what we are going to do about rising airfare and the income remaining the same.

MOTIONS

Hawaii Area #17 Inform the Delegate Assembly

April 1-2, 2006

East Hawaii District

Proposals from Aloha Friday Night – Limit Spending on Unbudgeted Line Items Lisa M.

The original wording stands after going back to the home group with suggestions from the last committee meeting. Would like to table this to the next assembly. Discussion from floor. Upset

that we are holding voting issues after the reports. **Point of order:** Once you have begun discussion, it cannot be tabled. Motion to table this proposal, seconded. For: 20, against:

Introduction of proposals: This is to address the 2 unbudgeted line items that were purchased during this panel. We feel that \$250 is a prudent amount for unbudgeted items without being taken back to the group. \$500 for unbudgeted housekeeping items. We cannot leave this to the next panel to look back and say "Hey, they did it". We are not going to let it happen again. That's the essence of this proposal.

Motion: To add to the S & G: "Unbudgeted housekeeping items totaling \$250 or more must be taken to the Groups for decision."

Discussion: This proposal would honor the process. The groups should be able to consider the expenditures that Area is making. People in this room are trusted by the groups otherwise they wouldn't be here. My group thinks that the amount is a little low, and that this will tie things up for a long time, it would take a year for us to make any purposes. I took this to my home group, and we took the time to come to an informed group conscience. The answer was: you asre our trusted servant, and we are voting against it. There is a lot of sobriety in this room, we should be able to make decisions.

For: 2

Against: 71

No minority wishes to speak, motion defeated.

To add to the S & G "Unbudgeted line items totaling \$500 or more must be taken to the Groups for decision."

Discussion: I have yet to find any evidence that the Right of Decision applies to Area. I am concerned that we are applying the authority which was designed for General Service at the Conference level here in Area.

For: 7

Opposed: 65

No minority wishes to speak, the motion defeated.

MOTIONS

Hawaii Area #17 Budget Assembly

August 19 - 20, 2006

Diamond Head District

2 Proposals for Budget Approval Process from 12 Coconuts – Joann

Proposal 1:

Discussion: When is the Finance Formed? At the January Assembly. I am not sure that 3 months is long enough to get together and make a budget. Is 3 months adequate time to prepare to prepare a budge? I would guess no, especially with brand new officer / servants. How much notice is give now? June Committee meeting until August Assembly. Then the Finance Committee can get out to all the groups and do presentations. Our district didn't get a presentation, it was canceled twice. The current process seems to be working in my district. I would like to see an Ad Hoc Committee formed to look at the S & G first. It makes sense to have the Budget approved at the November Assembly. I have heard this same essence of this proposal over and over since the January 2005 Assembly. When will the minority accept the conscience of this body? In Panel 49 we did have the budget ready in April, and I haven't seen this happen since then. I am in favor of this proposal. We don't have to change the S & G to let

**Treasurers Report
Hawaii Area 17
April 1, 2006**

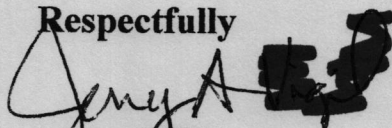
Cash On Hand March 30, 2006	\$ 9,281.03
Prudent Reserve (Savings)	\$ 3,477.00
Total March 30, 2006	\$12,758.03
Revenue Jan 1 Through March 30, 2006	\$ 5,434.22
Expenses Jan 1, Through March 30, 2006	\$10,168.00
Net Loss for Through March 30	(\$ 4733. 78)

Observations

- 1. The majority of large expenses happened in the first quarter of this year. We covered expenses for GSO, Prassa, Pacific Forum, and have had a lot of Interisland activity for the first three months of this year.**
- 2. If our Seventh Tradition money continues at this rate, and if all money is spent that is budgeted, we will have a net loss at the end of the year of \$5,264.**
- 3. At this point it would be wise to ask groups to increase Seventh Tradition donations. It will only take about an additional \$440 per month to break even at the end of the year.**
- 4. Lastly, we are not in financial peril, our reserves are adequate to cover our budget requirements. However it would be good to pass on to the next panel a healthy reserve.**

Thank your groups for all the support they have given.

Respectfully



**Jerry
Area Treasurer**

Hawaii Area Committee
Profit & Loss
January 1 through March 30, 2006

Jan 1 - Mar 30, 06

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Contributions Income (Dist.)

District #01 Diamond Head	987.38
District #02 Honolulu	53.03
District #03 Leeward	127.56
District #04 Windward	553.80
District #05 No Ka Oi	315.62
District #06 Kauai	355.00
District #07 East Hawaii	15.00
District #08 West Hawaii	788.24
District #09 Central N. Shore	114.50
District #10 Waikiki	1,030.42
District #11 Kihei	625.81
District #12 Puna	180.00
District #13 West Maui	140.61
District #14 Manoa	57.25
District #17 Waianae	90.00
Total Contributions Income (Dist.)	5,434.22

Total Income 5,434.22

Expense

Convention, Hawaii	354.31
Hawaii Area As A Whole - Detail	
Area Assemblies	660.00
Area Meetings	320.00
General Service Conference	1,200.00
Interisland Airfare - Area Meet	3,944.56
Office Supplies	10.40
Pacific Forum	608.40
PRASSA	1,778.31
Printing	337.19
Hawaii Area As A Whole - Detail - Other	183.00
Total Hawaii Area As A Whole - Detail	9,041.86

Hawaii Area Standing Committies

Archives	100.00
Coop/Elderly Community	138.63
Corrections	
Books/Videos/Literature	30.00
Total Corrections	30.00

CPC

Literature/Videos	55.45
Total CPC	55.45

Grapevine

Display	65.00
Total Grapevine	65.00

Hawaii Area Committee
Profit & Loss
January 1 through March 30, 2006

	<u>Jan 1 - Mar 30, 06</u>
Hospitals	
Literature	247.00
Total Hospitals	<u>247.00</u>
Mynah Bird	
Printing (6 Issues)	43.75
Total Mynah Bird	<u>43.75</u>
Treatment Facilities (TFC)	
Literature	92.00
Total Treatment Facilities (TFC)	<u>92.00</u>
Total Hawaii Area Standing Committies	<u>771.83</u>
Total Expense	<u>10,168.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-4,733.78</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-4,733.78</u></u>

03/29/06

Hawaii Area Committee
Profit & Loss Budget Overview
January through December 2006

	Jan - Dec 06	Budget
Convention, Hawaii	354.31	
Dept. Consumer Affairs non profit reg.	0.00	-10.00
HASC - Archive -Ted ██████████		
Storage/Supplies	0.00	-400.00
Total HASC - Archive -Ted ██████████	0.00	-400.00
HASC - Archives		
Display Materials	0.00	-100.00
Phone	0.00	-20.00
Printing/Postage	0.00	-115.00
Supplies	0.00	-100.00
Travel	100.00	-160.00
Total HASC - Archives	100.00	-495.00
HASC - Coop w/ Elderly Comm.		
Litterature	138.63	-250.00
Paper,Printing, Copying	0.00	-250.00
Phone	0.00	-20.00
Travel	0.00	-320.00
Total HASC - Coop w/ Elderly Comm.	138.63	-840.00
HASC - Corrections		
Books/Videos/Literature	30.00	-260.00
Phone	0.00	-20.00
Postage & Printing	0.00	-80.00
Travel	0.00	-160.00
Workshops	0.00	-120.00
Total HASC - Corrections	30.00	-640.00
HASC - CPC (Cooperations w/Professional		
Literature/Videos	55.45	-162.00
Postage/Phone	0.00	-57.00
Printing	0.00	-50.00
Travel	0.00	-320.00
Total HASC - CPC (Cooperations w/Professional	55.45	-589.00
HASC - Finance Committee		
Phone	0.00	-20.00
Postage	0.00	-37.00
Printing &Next Yrs. Bdgt.	89.37	-150.00
Total HASC - Finance Committee	89.37	-207.00
HASC - Grapevine		
Display/Literature	65.00	-100.00
Phone	0.00	-20.00
Printing/Postage	0.00	-40.00
Subscriptions to give	0.00	-100.00
Travel	0.00	-160.00
Total HASC - Grapevine	65.00	-420.00

**Hawaii Area Committee
Profit & Loss Budget Overview
January through December 2006**

	<u>Jan - Dec 06</u>	<u>Budget</u>
HASC - Hospitals		
Literature	247.00	-250.00
Phone	0.00	-20.00
Postage	0.00	-12.00
Printing	0.00	-50.00
Travel	0.00	-160.00
Workshops	0.00	-50.00
Total HASC - Hospitals	247.00	-542.00
HASC - Mynah Bird		
Misc., Postage, Phone, etc.	0.00	-100.00
Printing (100 copies per issue	43.75	-600.00
Travel	0.00	-160.00
Total HASC - Mynah Bird	43.75	-860.00
HASC - PI (Public Information)		
Literature/Public Service Anns.	0.00	-350.00
Phone	0.00	-20.00
Postage/Correspondence	0.00	-37.00
Printing/ Stationary	0.00	-50.00
Workshops/Travel	0.00	-160.00
Total HASC - PI (Public Information)	0.00	-617.00
HASC - TFC (Treatment Facilities Comm.)		
Literature	92.00	-150.00
Phone	0.00	-20.00
Postage & Stationery	0.00	-50.00
Printing	0.00	-90.00
Travel	0.00	-160.00
Workshops	0.00	-50.00
Total HASC - TFC (Treatment Facilities Comm.)	92.00	-520.00
Hawaii Area Officers/As Whole		
Area Mtgs		
Area Committee Mtgs. Fees	320.00	-1,280.00
Assembly Registration Fees	660.00	-1,280.00
Total Area Mtgs	980.00	-2,560.00
Area Phone		
ALT Area Chair	0.00	-20.00
Alt.Delegate	0.00	-20.00
Area Chair	0.00	-20.00
Area Officers (other)	0.00	-60.00
Delegate	0.00	-60.00
Total Area Phone	0.00	-180.00

**Hawaii Area Committee
Profit & Loss Budget Overview
January through December 2006**

	<u>Jan - Dec 06</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Area Postage		
Alt Chair	0.00	-15.00
Area Chair	0.00	-30.00
Delegate/Alt.Delegate	0.00	-60.00
Financial (incl budget)	0.00	-37.00
Other Area Officers	0.00	-25.00
Total Area Postage	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-167.00</u>
Area Printing		
Area Chair & Alt. Chair	0.00	-150.00
Delegate/Alt.Delegate	85.85	-1,100.00
Registrar	52.28	
Secretary	109.69	-200.00
Treasurer	0.00	-300.00
Total Area Printing	<u>247.82</u>	<u>-1,750.00</u>
General Sv Conf		
Add GSO Support \$400. if able	0.00	-400.00
Hotel	0.00	-500.00
Meals	0.00	-100.00
Min. Registration	1,200.00	-1,200.00
Transportation & Misc.	0.00	-50.00
Total General Sv Conf	<u>1,200.00</u>	<u>-2,250.00</u>
Insurance	0.00	-500.00
Interisland Airfare for Area Mtgs		
Area Off. & Stand., Com. (est. 8x9)	3,206.53	-6,282.00
Assist Districts Air Fare	163.03	-500.00
Conv. Steering Air Fare	612.00	-960.00
Delegate's Report 1.5	0.00	-500.00
Interisland Airfare for Area Mtgs - Other	146.00	
Total Interisland Airfare for Area Mtgs	<u>4,127.56</u>	<u>-8,242.00</u>
Office Supplies		
Computer	0.00	-100.00
Officers	0.00	-30.00
Registra	0.00	-100.00
Secretary	0.00	-15.00
Treasurer	10.40	-200.00
Total Office Supplies	<u>10.40</u>	<u>-445.00</u>
Pacific Forum		
Airfare 2 @ \$600.	608.40	-1,200.00
Food 2 @ \$150.	0.00	-300.00
Hotel 2 @ \$300.	0.00	-600.00
Transp/Misc 2 @ \$30	0.00	-60.00
Total Pacific Forum	<u>608.40</u>	<u>-2,160.00</u>

03/29/06

Hawaii Area Committee
Profit & Loss Budget Overview
January through December 2006

	<u>Jan - Dec 06</u>	<u>Budget</u>
PRASSA		
Airfare 2 @ \$600	809.51	-1,200.00
Banquet 2 @ \$25	0.00	-50.00
Delegate Lunch	0.00	-25.00
Hotel 2@300	658.70	-600.00
Meals	137.10	-200.00
PRASSA Tapes 1 set @ \$70	78.00	-70.00
Registration 2 @ \$25.	95.00	-50.00
Transportation/ Misc. 2 @ \$25	0.00	-50.00
Total PRASSA	<u>1,778.31</u>	<u>-2,245.00</u>
Web Site	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-120.00</u>
Total Hawaii Area Officers/As Whole	<u>8,952.49</u>	<u>-20,619.00</u>
International Convention Yearly set asid	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-250.00</u>
TOTAL	<u><u>10,168.00</u></u>	<u><u>-27,009.00</u></u>

**Proposal to Amend
Structure & Guidelines
for the Hawaii Area Assembly
of Alcoholics Anonymous**

Proposal for Budget Approval Process

Proposal 1:

1. Add S&G section 7.6 "BUDGET APPROVAL PROCESS": The Finance Committee distributes the proposed budget at the Inform-the-Delegate Assembly.
2. Renumber S&G Section 7.6 to 7.7.

Proposal 2:

Add to the new 7.6 Budget Approval Process:

1. As used this section "emergency" is defined as:
 - i. any expense which was unforeseen at the time the budget was approved; and
 - ii. the circumstances requiring the expenditure preclude postponing the approval of the expenditure until the next area assembly.
2. No change to the budget may be made without three-month's notice unless there is substantial unanimity at an assembly that the proposed budget **change** constitutes an "emergency".
3. No expenditure can be made which was not included in the budget without three-month's notice unless there is substantial unanimity by an assembly that the proposed expenditure constitutes an "emergency".

**Submitted at the Hawaii Area Assembly in Hilo, Hawaii, April 1-2, 2006 by 12 Coconuts
Revised July 21, 2006 by 12 Coconuts
for consideration by the Hawaii Area at the Budget Assembly to be held
in Honolulu, Hawaii, August 19-20, 2006**