

**Hawaii Area 17 Inform the Delegate Assembly  
Saturday April 14, 2012  
Hosted by Diamond Head District 1**

9:05 AM Call to Order: Serenity Prayer, Host DCM announcements,  
Past Delegates: Dick - Panel 39, Scott- Panel 49, birthdays, new GSRs, Reading, Chris, West HI - Concept 4

Area Officers' Reports

Delegate, Linda McD.- **AREA 17 DELEGATE REPORT April 14, 2012**

This year, as always, delegates will attend the 62nd General Service Conference with the common belief that A.A. as a whole is still responsible for maintaining our society known as Alcoholics Anonymous. We do this by carrying the conscience of our areas and participating in the closest thing that A.A. has to a group conscience. Our primary purpose this weekend is to reach a consensus on some of the Conference agenda items. It is the people who are here this weekend who can make a contribution to the future of A.A. because the items that we will discuss, along with all the items on the Conference Agenda, comprise the business of A.A. for the coming year. If you do not take anything with you from this assembly, know that by participating in this assembly, you are participating in the business of A.A., which is how can we do a better job of reaching the alcoholic who suffers from this disease. In addition to the agenda items assigned for presentation this weekend, we will discuss the workshop topic: "Safety in A.A.: Our Common Welfare." So picture this: each of the 93 areas in the US and Canada is having a pre-conference assembly based on the same material that we have. That means that hundreds of A.A. members are contributing their thoughts and ideas to A.A. as a whole through their delegate. That's unity!

Shortly after the February Committee Meeting, the conference members received one more agenda item. The following is a motion from the General Service Board that will be presented to the 62nd General Service Conference: *"The General Service Conference supports the General Service Board's development of a plan to restructure the current Alcoholics Anonymous Grapevine, Inc., corporate and governance structure, while retaining the Grapevine's independent voice. The plan may, among other things, address the separate corporate existence of Alcoholics Anonymous Grapevine, Inc., as well as issues of governance and operations. The plan will be designed to increase unity, better reach and connect the Grapevine to the broader Fellowship while addressing financial stability. The plan will be submitted to the 63rd General Service Conference for approval prior to implementation."*

As a result of an advisory action that came out of last year's Conference, a Shared Resources Committee was formed. However, its scope is limited. It is not equipped to deal with some of the challenges and concerns of the A.A. Grapevine, Inc. that the Board has been discussing:

The universal migration in the publishing industry from print to electronic magazine publications, the General Service Board's fiduciary responsibility to the Fellowship in further authorizations to the A.A. Grapevine's use of the Reserve Fund to meet operational needs, the A.A. Grapevine's projections for 2013 and 2014 estimate further draw downs totaling over \$498,000 unless policies and operations can be changed, the increasing focus on A.A. Grapevine's overall welfare has led to a growing sense of disunity in the Fellowship that has proven to be a distraction in fulfilling our primary purpose.

The A.A. Grapevine is an important resource for carrying the A.A. message. Your General Service Board seeks only to find the best possible solutions for its future.

The motion originates from the General Service Board and as in past situations, will not be sent through the Conference committee. Rather, Ward B. Ewing, Chair of the GSB, will present the motion during his report early in the Conference week. The motion will be addressed only after the Conference Committee Reports and before any Floor Actions.

There was quite a bit of heated discussion regarding the above motion in the Delegate Roundtables during PRAASA. You know, A.A.'s love a good scandal/conspiracy, and your delegates are no exception. In the end, we came to see that the motion is a proposal to develop a plan and is being presented to us for practical and spiritual reasons: to reach a

consensus and to promote unity. Last year, the Conference spoke loudly and clearly that we want the GSB to have greater oversight over the A.A. Grapevine Inc., and that is exactly what is happening.

## 2. Other news from A.A.W.S.:

International - A Haitian-Creole translation of the Big Book is moving to completion. Thirty-one delegates have registered so far for the World Service Conference to be held in NY in October. (Please see page 571 of the *A.A. Service Manual* for definition of World Service Conference.) A member is helping us establish firm contact with A.A. in Iran; and a worker at a refugee camp in Malawi is setting up A.A. meetings for the 5,500 people living there. A.A. has been growing in Uganda with a translation of the Big Book into Luganda just on the horizon.

Corrections - The Corrections Correspondence Service linked at least 181 male inmates and 59 female inmates to outside volunteers in the last three months on 2011.

Ebooks - The first two A.A.W.S. eBooks were launched on a new A.A.W.S. Online Store. They are working to ensure the smooth operation of the system and sales simultaneous with the development of an App for Android and iPad.

The IT group and Publications Department are addressing post-launch corrections, adjustments and communications.

The next two eBooks planned for release are *Daily Reflections* and *Living Sober*. During the period of 12/12/11 through 1/23/12, eBig Book sales were 1,342 and 1,208 for *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* for a total of 2,550 eBooks sold. *Daily Reflections* is now available on aa.org in all three languages. The page is updated daily. The new page can be reached by clicking on the "Daily Reflections" link on the upper left corner of the home page.

International Convention - The theme for the 2015 International will be "80 Years - Happy, Joyous, and Free."

Notifications about the Convention, including housing and registration information, will be mailed out and posted on G.S.O.'s A.A. Website as we get closer to the Convention. Until then, watch for articles in *Box 4-5-9*, which is mailed to the general service representative of every group in the US and Canada listed with G.S.O. In 2020, the Convention will be held in Detroit, Michigan.

## 3 Openings at A.A.W.S. and A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

Senior Editor for The Grapevine, Inc. - for responsibilities and qualifications, please see Spring 2012 *Box 4-5-9*.

Resumes along with a cover letter are due by May 31, 2012 to [resumes@aagrapevine.org](mailto:resumes@aagrapevine.org).

Class A (non-alcoholic) Trustee - current trustees, delegates, and directors submit candidates' professional resumes by July 31, 2012. For further information, please see Spring issue of *Box 4-5-9* or inquire at G.S.O.

A.A.W.S. Non-trustee Directors - Two non-trustee director positions will open following the 2013 GSC. Interested A.A. members should submit resumes by July 1, 2012. For qualifications and job requirements, please see Spring issue of *Box 4-5-9* or inquire at G.S.O.

A.A. Grapevine Non-trustee Directors - Vacancies may become available following the 2013 GSC. Resumes should be submitted by May 31, 2012. For qualifications and job requirements, please see Spring issue of *Box 4-5-9* or inquire at G.S.O.

Class B (alcoholic) Trustees - Three new trustees will be elected at the 2013 GSC. Elections will be for the East Central and Southeast Regions and for trustee-at-large/US. Resumes for trustee positions are submitted by delegates and are due by January 1, 2013. A sound A.A. background is a basic qualification for Class B trustees. Ten years of continuous sobriety is desirable but not mandatory. Candidates should be active in both local and area A.A. affairs; and because trustees serve the entire Fellowship, they require the background and the willingness to make decisions on matters of broad policy that affect A.A. as a whole. It is also important that trustee candidates understand the commitment of time required. Trustees are expected to attend three quarterly board weekends, with meetings often scheduled from Thursday afternoon through Monday morning, and the GSC which lasts for one week. Often trustees are asked to attend a Regional Forum weekend. In addition, regional trustees are usually asked to serve two years on either the A.A.W.S. or Grapevine Corporate Boards, which meet more frequently than the GSB.

Upcoming Event - The Pacific Regional Forum will be held on September 14-16 at the Westmark Hotel Fairbanks in Fairbanks, Alaska. Please plan to attend this very special event and meet some of the folks who work at GSO. This is an open forum where all are invited to share their experience, strength, and hope - and questions.

Secretary, Coleen A - Minutes January Inventory Assembly motion to accept by Kathy, seconded by Chris C.

Treasurer's Report, Sheri: motion to accept, Chuck. Seconded by Eric.

**TREASURER'S REPORT  
HAWAII AREA 17  
April 10, 2012**

Aloha Panel 61 trusted servants,

As of April 10, 2012 Hawaii Area funds are as follows:

<b>Operating Funds</b>	<b>\$ 5,611.91</b>
<b>Prudent Reserve</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>Reserve for Computer Equipment</b>	<b>\$ 1,250.00</b>
<b>Reserve for International Convention</b>	<b>\$ <u>700.00</u></b>
<b>Total cash in bank</b>	<b>\$ 12,561.91</b>

As of April 10, 2012:

<b>Total Contributions and Income</b>	<b>\$ 5,739.42</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 13,264.90</b>
<b>Net Revenues</b>	<b>-\$ 7,525.48</b>

As previously noted, the bulk of Area's expenses are in the first part of the year. The proposed 2013 budget will be presented at the May Committee Meeting on Maui and the Finance Committee would like to encourage and invite all to seek us out and express concerns or ask questions about the Budget after you see it and bring it to your home group. We also hope to travel to every district that will have us and present the proposed budget, answer questions, and pass out copies of the proposed budget.

We are also working on some split cards, which will include addresses to mail your contributions. If you are interested in receiving one of these for your group's treasurer, please ask your DCM.

Thank you all for letting me serve as your Treasurer. Sheri B

"The paradox of A.A. is that financial independence and the support of our Fellowship by alcoholics and alcoholics alone not only enhances A.A.'s importance to each of us, but stimulates our engagement in our own recovery ... A.A. is 'our thing', from our group's treasury to the balance sheets at the General Service Office." **Self Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix**

Alternate Delegate, Ken:

Chairs and /or the following committees:

Archives (Ad Hoc) - were moved to a central location. This reduced storage and expenses. Volunteers of our fellowship and OYPAA (Oahu Young People in A.A.), moved archives to cut down expenses.

Structures and Guidelines (Ad Hoc) - reviewing

Hawaii Convention - On steering committee.

GSR Orientation for new GSRs will be at lunch.

Chair, Cheryl N.: Aloha everyone. I'm Cheryl and I'm an alcoholic. I am honored to be serving as your Area Chair. Wow, it seems like time has flown since our September Budget Assembly. Since then, I have:

□ Compiled the Year End Summaries from Area Officers, Standing Committee chairs and DCMs. It's up on the website for all to review and I have made copies for DCMs, Standing Committee chairs and the Area Officers. Mahalo to those who have submitted their reports. One of the reasons I wanted to do this was so we would have an easy answer to those who asked "What does Area do?"

□ Attended District and Intergroup meetings in West Hawaii.

□ Worked with various DCMs and Standing Committee chairs on issues that have come up.

□ Worked on the Archives and continued to look for people willing to serve on an Archives ad hoc committee. So far, no one has stepped forward. It's time for Plan

B. Our alternate delegate will be heading up the committee so now's the time to step forward if you're interested.

I am going to go a little past my three minutes allotted because I've been hearing concern about 'Hawaiian Miles for Area.' When I heard this from a number of people I called my service sponsee - a past delegate. She reminded me that Area needs to be prudent with our funds. GSO puts on the International Convention every 5 years. A few years ago, San Diego was one of a number of cities that had submitted a bid to GSO to host the convention. Each city's Visitor Board presented their package to the committee - just like they do to all the other potential conventions. Not just to AA because we are AA but that is how they attract the conventions. San Diego won the bid because they provided buses. GSO participates in a similar with airlines that sever the hosting city. So, GSO, being prudent with its use of 7th Tradition funds, takes advantage of this routinely.

The Hawaiian Miles program is something they offer to anyone who uses them regularly, not just to AA. They call it their "Preferred Affiliate" program but those are their words. We are not affiliating with them but we are taking advantage of this opportunity to be prudent with our 7th Tradition funds.

We will have some time for open mic with "What's On Your Mind" at the end of the day. Mahalo for the opportunity to serve as your Area chair. My life and my sobriety are so much richer as a result.

Cheryl has stepped in for Bob H. - Home stay is sometimes a challenge. Thank you Diamond Head and others who opened their homes for others.

DCMs - summaries from 2011. Good way to answer the question, "What does Area 17 do?"

Alternate Chair, Bob H. - unable to attend.

Registrar, Adina: Revised contact list, confidential. Only folks in AA have access. Did all updates before the committee meetings as far as GSRs. Has not had time since them to do additional updates. Moving into field of technology, can do work while here. Hope this makes it smoother. Only District 4 had changes, as far as I know. New Regional directory will be printed this summer. Changes need to have submitted by May 5<sup>th</sup>. See me if I can assist you. I need you name, address, home phone number and email so you can get on the right list.

Panel 1 - District 3, Leeward: Determine the Inventory questions listed in the 'Inventory Plan' which were approved by the 2011 GSC, that will be discussed each year for the 2013, 2014, 2015 General Service Conferences.

Diane: When this agenda item is discussed by the Agenda Committee at the General Service Conference at the end of the month, they will take a look at the 44 inventory questions that were approved at the 2011 Conference and decide which questions will be discussed in each of the three upcoming years (2013, 2014, and 2015). When Linda chose this topic, however, she was more interested in feedback on four specific questions under the category "Yearlong Process Effectiveness", namely

3. How well do all Conference members communicate to the Fellowship about why we have a Conference and how the committee system works? How could we improve in this communication?
4. How can we better communicate that the Conference process is more than one spring week in New York?
5. How do the delegates and regional trustees support the yearlong process effectiveness?
6. What other suggestions do we have for how to improve the effectiveness of the yearlong process?

In order to consider these questions, we felt it was important to understand more about the "Yearlong Process" - which we took to mean the ongoing actions of all the participants in the General Service Structure. We looked first at our

A.A. groups who elect a GSR sometime in the fall or winter for the upcoming Panel. If there is an active GSR, the group becomes part of the process. Next, we considered the District who elects a DCM who promotes participation of GSR's in the Area service structure, and who plays an active role in disseminating information throughout the year both to and from the Area. At the Area level, a delegate is elected to represent the Area at the General Service level, as a member of one of the Conference committees, and a voting member on actions taken at the General Service Conference. The ways in which we all participate "yearlong" include 1) electing a delegate, 2) participating in the Inform the Delegate Assembly, 3) and hosting Delegate report-backs. Beyond these activities are opportunities for individual A.A. members, GSR's, DCM's, Delegates and Past Delegates to increase understanding and give input on A.A. issues at PRAASA (whose purpose includes providing the opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of AA - particularly topics which will be dealt with at the General Service Conference) and Regional Forums (which provide an opportunity for A.A. members and local trusted servants to exchange information and share experience with representatives of the General Service Board, A.A.W.S. and AA Grapevine and the General Service Office).

In addition to the Area Delegates, the General Service Conference membership also includes Trustees, Directors, GSO Staff, and Grapevine Staff. In whatever ways these individuals interact with the Fellowship throughout the year, the "Yearlong Process Effectiveness" is seen.

In preparation for today's presentation, the District Committee Members were given an outline of the Agenda item with suggested questions they might discuss with their groups. A Newsletter, The Leeward Letter #4, was published which outlined the agenda item and encouraged A.A. groups to give their input to the District and the Area. It was pointed out that there was no background information on the agenda item - only whatever experiences each of us (and our groups) have had with regard to this "Yearlong Process Effectiveness".

Cynthia, GSR:

Committee system: Responses to Inventory Questions: Yearlong Process Effectiveness

*1. How well do all Conference members communicate to the Fellowship about why we have a Conference and how the committee system works? How could we improve in this communication?*

The current Delegate makes an attempt to inform members but many members are not interested. Where there's an interest, info is made available. At the District level communication is good: DCM stays in touch with groups, GSR at the group is bringing accurate info back, Delegate is doing great at being available and informing clearly.

On the committee system: We do well because we have an informed DCM who communicates the committee process through, ex. District newsletter. Delegate bends over backwards to carry the message of how the committee works.

*2. How can we better communicate that the Conference process is more than one spring week in New York?*

We could be better at communicating the importance of the Conference to the group. Use of literature (Conference pamphlet) may be helpful.

GSRs could re-enforce how the Conference affects AA as a whole.

The Area could offer an assembly on the final Conference report, open to all members as the report backs are, but hopefully with a longer reach.

*3. How do delegates and regional trustees support the yearlong process effectiveness?*

Not much is known about how they support it.

Where and how they show up: support built into their "jobs".

PRAASA, Assemblies, Intergroup attendance, Special Forums, Committee meetings, Conference

4. *What other suggestions do we have for how to improve the effectiveness of the yearlong process?* Not enough is known about this to respond.

One overwhelming theme was disinterest. Members leave General Service to others, and don't care how it gets done. How do we change this? How do we lend the importance of this in our message?

Comments: none

Delegate Summary: The result she wanted, purpose of ITD is also to inform you about what we discuss and why we discuss it. Preface the purpose that we talk about any of this is to improve our process in reaching the alcoholic who still suffers. There is a plethora of information out there, and we don't read it. It is in the Final Conference Report. At the GSC e also discuss how to increase participation, especially at the GSR level.

Panel 2 - District 2, Honolulu: Consider suggestions to increase the Conference Delegate Fee.

Aaron: Didn't know what this meant. It forced us do to the research, talk to past Delegates and manual, also read online Chapter 6 - The Delegate. The average cost is \$7,000.00. The real cost varies depending on where delegate lives, how long they stay. GSO provides hotel, transportation, food, and reimburses all areas up to \$1,001.50.

Question seems to be how much to raise the fee. Burden on Areas, past delegates' adamant on raising the fee by a few hundred dollars, inflation happens. Should be more talk at meetings/groups about where group funds are going. Sense of urgency, pass a second basket. There is a concern that meetings may shrink with emphasis on money, but may result in more people getting into service. Should raise it by at least \$400.00

Comments:

-Group conscience is to raise delegates fee by at least \$300.00.

- Q? Does this ever become a floor action? It can. Home Group level our consensus is to raise it by \$400.00

Delegate Summary: Suggestion that we go to a less expensive hotel. We're going back to Rye NY, upstate, and the hotel rooms are less expensive, and she's able to go 2 days early to help with jet lag. GSC is the legacies in action. Recommendation is to raise the fee by \$300.00-\$400.00. Let's not just look at the dollars as dollars. What is the spiritual value, what is the fellowship going to gain in trying to reach the still suffering alcoholic?

Panel 3 - District 17, Waianae: Review the current \$3,000 dollar limit on annual individual contributions and one-time bequests.

Mark: Change from \$3K to \$15 K and one time bequest to \$75K

Laurie, GSR: My group agrees with the proposal to increase \$3K to \$15 K. And we agree a one time bequest of \$75K fits in with our 7<sup>th</sup> tradition.

Pam: Home group's response, went through background information. Couldn't find out what one time bequest was before. Whoever pays the piper is apt to call the tune. Don't take outside sources. AA must always stay poor. Depend on contributions from members. Consider potential negative impact, don't support it.

Karina: I'm in awe that we have rich AA members out there that can contribute that much money. Believe AA as a whole could stand together if we have members like that. Instead of looking at the bad, I feel good when I can put in \$1 or \$2. Whatever each member can contribute, at least there is hope that AA is still working.

Mark: Discussion at the district meeting was wide ranging. More questions than answers, how does it affect us? Where does our money go? What is money used for? Larger donations should be made anonymously. AA is hurting financially so if it helps AA, why not? If every AA member contributed an amount of money, AA would be set. Corporate poverty. People who attend to the finances of a spiritual organization are already removed from the world of the spirit.

Comments:

Q: Is there a lifetime cap to the \$15 K per year donation? Yes it's annually for as long as you are alive.

This came up last year, member left \$35K in will. Wanted to give it to AA in Hawaii. We did research. The \$3K bequest is only once. Annually, you can give \$3K per year as long as you live. This is in GSO's guidelines. Most districts, groups, and areas adhere to those guidelines, but are not restricted by them. GSO turns down/sends back anything over the amount. It was acceptable according to NY, the bequest for Hawaii it split : and up to \$3K was received by Area, Central Office, etc. Doesn't happen often in AA. Raising it to \$75K won't have a big impact in Hawaii, or on Oahu.

\$3K was put in place in what year?

Not enough people contributing this amount anyway, contribution over \$2K, under 10 people ever. Tie this concept to 1<sup>st</sup> panel on how this money is used. Not enough information. We have travel expenses, need proper context to make an informed opinion.

How we use money and are self-supporting is connected to the past two panels. I think we're doing a good job at staying poor. We're in no danger of getting an excess amount of money. We're struggling to get the information to and from conferences. This is not something that is going to create a moneyball problem. Group conscience, we should raise it as high as possible. More than one past delegate is in my home group. Should be raised as high as the conference sees fit.

For the increase, having lived in remote community, there are some expenses that we can't comprehend. Tech, help people in remote communities, So many pros I'm hearing, give it a chance. When the cons come up, pass another motion to take it back and reduce it.

Group thought we're poor enough and struggling for money in this economy. As high as the conference raise it let them raise it. To use that money for AA. or a 2 pack of cheap beer. I spent more for the beer, it was never one beer. We can give more.

My opinion. Don't think the fact that only a small group has given this amount is a factor. Should increase the amount a person can donate. Things cost more. We spend more on things. We should be allowed to contribute more, should be some kind of limit too.

In a discussion about money. I heard "I owe AA my life." The dollar amounts staggered my head. After it sunk in, I thought it's like life insurance for AA.

I'm all for raising the limits. At times, \$1 to one person has the same value as \$10 to somebody else. There are people who can give more to AA than others. You don't get a bigger vote. If I was to give \$3K to AA would it be considered a non profit gift? Yes.

If I give \$75K where does it go? To AA, it goes to GSO.

Limits in AA history to become dependent on anyone. Remember the spiritual nature of money, the dollar is going to extensions of our love and interest in AA. If we become dependent on big chunks of money, are we abdicating our responsibility? In favor of raising the limits.

What is corporate poverty? Prudent reserve. We live within our means. What is our primary purpose? Anything we do is carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. GSO carries the message worldwide. Raise the limit. We are responsible.

This is a spiritual program, entirely. This is a spiritual issue. What kind of impact are these large spikes of money going to have on AA if we do this. At the district level, the spiritual impact when that opportunity became available, some people weren't sure that we did the right thing. What is the bottom line spiritually?

Self-supporting through our own contributions. There are many different avenues and outlets. IT's all in God's hands.

Delegate Summary: Surprised that the consensus is in favor of this, with a few dissensions. Regarding the suggestion to allow contributions to be anonymous: If GSO receives a contribution that they cannot identify as coming from an AA member, they will send it back. We don't take outside contributions. If we were to raise these limits, it doesn't mean

that members who can afford to will do so. That's their prerogative. Even \$75K is less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent of GSOs budget. The budget runs from 12 to 13 million dollars per year.

Panel 6 - District 8, West Hawaii: Consider a review of continuing financial commitment to La Viña per 2001 General Service Conference Advisory Action that La Viña continue to be published by the AA Grapevine and supported by the General Service Board as a service to the fellowship."

Tommy: background info: What La Viña made and lost: Average cost \$285K per year. Never made money. Reevaluate continued production and support. La Viña is not a translated version of GV. It is by Spanish speaking members for Spanish speaking members. Continues as a service to the fellowship. They can't do their own production, so use GV entity to make it more efficient. And lose less money. In 1995 requested money from reserve fund to start La Viña. Annual budget report used to monitor progress.

Chris: AA GV Inc. in March of 1999 wrote a memo to conference committee members, do not foresee increased circulation or reduction in cost. Still continuing with same results. Used in correctional facilities, consider the spiritual benefits.

Chris: 2001 board meeting, ad hoc committee evaluated status, key issues, recommit to keep publishing as a service to the fellowship, and publicized to achieve efficiencies in printing a distribution. Focus on streamlining and cutting cost. 2010 advisory action recommended Spiritual Parity, given funding, followed by a review, and submit a report at 2013 conference committee.

His group discussed it, La Viña is a good thing for Spanish speaking people. But if it's not self-supporting, is it helping AA?

Tommy: Spanish speaking meetings in my district. Interesting to see all the translation in Oahu. Hard to see that kind of money being paid for, not being self-supporting.

Comments:

Attending PRAASA and all the Spanish speaking people in AA throughout the country, in Pacific Region there are linguistic districts. There are Spanish speaking districts for all the Spanish speaking people. There are a tremendous number of Spanish speaking people. Continue to be inclusive.

Asked to get as many La Viña's as possible, have a Spanish speaking. Why black and white? Spiritual parity was to have a La Viña with the same number of pages as the GV.

Our primary purpose, if we give up La Viña, we give up an opportunity to bring AA to Spanish speaking members.

Last year it was the first time the GV was in the black.

It would be a terrible thing to oust people on the count of money. The alcoholics and the recovery is beautiful in Mexico. I understand the language of the heart. This is an opportunity, who am I to judge who is self supporting? I'm here to be of service.

Principles over personalities. My opinion is if one person gets La Viña, that is our purpose.

I'm in favor of keeping La Viña in print. Not under the umbrella of the GV. La Viña has been doing better over the past 10 years as the GV has. Could be beneficial to the overall success of La Viña.

See AA group fold for not being self-supporting. The AA group itself. No one appears to be reading.

This is a spiritual decision. Our singleness of purpose is to save the suffering alcoholic. PRAASA is awesome to see 200 + Spanish sober alcoholics.



Not only two options, the reviews can be healthy, to explore options to finally come into the black. Healthy to take a look at how we do things.

In favor of keeping La Viña in print. Spanish is second in world languages, English is third.

Delegate Summary: Valid point, we are going to consider the financial commitment and review of business operations. Not just limiting something, but changing some things.

The consensus is to continue printing, and increasing costs. This is a service by GSO. There is a pamphlet of services offered by GSO, you can get it at the GSO website and see what other services we get from GSO.

#### PRAASA Report Back:

Chair, Cheryl N.: Aloha. I want to start off by thanking Area 17 from the bottom of my heart for sending me to the 2012 Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly, aka PRAASA, in Bellevue, WA. This is now my fifth PRAASA and although each one is different, I always come away filled with gratitude for the life I have as a result of this program; with a fire for doing everything in my power to stay sober and help others achieve sobriety and a recommitment to 'practicing these principles in all my affairs.'

As each new PRAASA starts, I am reminded by how I felt at the end of the previous one - like I was walking in the sunlight of the spirit, full of faith, light and love. As a good alcoholic, I want to feel that instantly again. But, what I experience instead, is a slow steady building of so many feelings - gratitude, identifying, trust, delight, tears, humility, open mindedness and yes, faith, light and love.

On Friday and Saturday evenings, I attended roundtables for Area Chairs and Alternate Chairs. Since this is the second year of the panel, I saw friends I made last year as well as new Chairs and Alternate Chairs for Panel 62. I volunteered to be of service at PRAASA and was asked to be the moderator for the Friday night roundtable. So, since I wasn't totally sure what was expected of me, I did something I never did when drinking (but occasionally do now in sobriety) - I reviewed the instructions they sent. Here's some of what I learned.

□ Area 17 is the only Area to use home stays regularly. Most areas people drive to assemblies and stay at hotels. Area funds the lodging.

□ On Trusted Servants who leave Assemblies early or don't attend - 'There will be no seat for them in the big meeting in the sky.'

□ DCMCs are used in heavily populated areas. In Area 09, which includes LA, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, some Districts have 150 - 200 meetings. The DCMCs help the DCMs in these Districts.

□ One chair commented that he tried to follow the one instruction he got as Area chair - LISTEN.

Although I learned from and was touched by everyone's comments, here are some of the more memorable ones.

□ My sponsor told me in early sobriety I could complicate a glass of water.

A past regional trustee - "I've been called a "has been." When I went to my first meeting, I was a "never was."

□ We have no big shots, we have no little shots, we have just one shot and then we're all shot.

A trustee from Japan related how, in 1988, she traveled on a train to get to a city where they had one meeting a week.

□ Very few of us know how much we need to know in order to realize how little we do know.

"There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle." by Albert Einstein. Mahalo nui loa.

**Delegate, Linda McD:**

The purposes of the Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (PRAASA) is to develop greater unity among the members, groups, and Areas of the Pacific Region; to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences; and to provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of A.A. The Assembly and the PRAASA committee should always foster the Recovery, Unity and Service of AA.

First, I would like to acknowledge our Hawaii presence of 26 people and thank Elizabeth M, our immediate past delegate and co-chair of the 2011 PRAASA, for showing up to deliver the 2011 minutes of the business meeting and the final financial report. Also on hand, were Jim D., our Hospitals Chair and Diane L. District 3 DCM, both of whom made outstanding presentations. Mahalo also to everyone else who participated by going to the mic and asking thought provoking questions during the "What's On Your Mind" sessions.

I am going to leave most of shared experiences up to others who attended, and share some of the value that I received as a delegate. First of all, the Pacific Region Delegates are some of the most well informed Delegates at the annual General Service Conference directly because of PRAASA. Not only are many of the Conference topics discussed with the general assembly, but also other topics and practical matters are talk about during the two 2-hour delegate roundtables. PRAASA exposes use to ideas, problems, and solutions other areas are facing, and, therefore, helps us to be better service leaders, partly because most answers come out of the collective group conscience and because discussions can trigger understanding and acceptance.

My personal PRAASA experience was, of course, completely different this year from last year when Hawaii was host to the Assembly. First of all, I was very sick before, during, and after PRAASA, so I stuck with the essentials and didn't socialize much. Shortly after arrival, I was informed that there would be a "Second Year Panel," for which I was unprepared. I had no choice but to trust in my Higher Power for the right words to come. And they did! Just amazing.

Part of PRAASA is the business meeting, which is conducted usually by a past trustee and during which everyone in attendance is eligible to vote. I always look forward to the business meeting because I love to see Roberts Rules of Order in action and I am inspired by the passion for A.A. I see in others. This year there was an interesting proposal made regarding the rotation of PRAASA host sites. As you may know, each year the PRAASA location is chosen four years out by a bid process made during the General Service Conference. The proposal is to set up a regular rotation of areas based on the fifteen areas in the Pacific Region so that conceptually each area would host PRAASA every 15 years. After a motion and second, there was lively discussion followed by a vote in favor of the motion, a motion and second to reconsider which passed, more discussion followed by a motion and second to table the motion to next year. The PRAASA Delegate Advisory Board will take the proposal into consideration and present various plans for Assembly discussion for PRAASA 2013. If a motion passes, it would not be effective until 2017 at the earliest. I welcome your comments and questions on this important issue.

Once again I thank you for the privilege of serving Alcoholics Anonymous, and I hope to see many of you in Boise, Idaho on March 1-3 for PRAASA 2013. In love & service,

11:50- 12:50 PM Lunch (Finance Committee Meeting)

Panel 5 -District 4, Windward: Review draft documents of self- support/financial talking points to be used by the fellowship.

Morgan: Recession and inflation affects us. Three areas core values: Education, communication, participation. 7<sup>th</sup> tradition - most people don't know where the money goes after it goes into the basket. We can't buy sobriety but we can pay for the cost and instruments that help pay for it. We pay for coffee, meeting center, literature. We need to be education where the money goes, what it's used for, the shortfall. 47 % groups contribute to GSO. Some are not donating out of pure ignorance. Education, area, region, etc. and how they function. A dollar is not enough, two would

be better. Change is difficult. Sobriety is priceless, my own alcoholism wasn't. Contribute because my sponsor asks me to remember where I came from. \$1.00 a day to get sober instead of \$150 to get loaded. Some members' reluctance to give more, some reluctance to give at all. If you can't afford, don't, if you can afford. Do give more than a dollar. Spiritual aspect, what we give freely helps us, and helps others as well stay sober and gain peace of mind. Get away from selfish concerns and help others. Donate with the faith my HP will take care of me. Literature is not immaculately conceived, it is produced. Self support is not restricted to financial contribution. Time is money, service is paramount to self support. Show up at meetings and share, group consciences, area meetings, intergroup, etc. Service rotation: educate membership. Action: communication and participation how AA is supported. Newcomers, sponsors, set good examples, emphasize rewards of supporting the program. People encouraged to participate more, they will communicate this to others. Solution: We as trusted servants need to educate ourselves, our group, and our members, to participate.

#### Comments:

I read this stuff. Points for the fellowship: Suggests groups send a figure that they would want to send to GSO. General guidelines, take care of home group first, then distribute money how you want to after that. The need to contribute a certain amount of dollars turns the triangle upside down.

Keep it simple, To my own self be true. I heard the reasons and excuses. If all I have is a dime, put it in. If I have a dollar or more, put that in. I have to begin with myself, and set the example as best I can to the people I sponsor. Need to help AA.

Self support Kit - a different topic. Birthday envelopes.

My group re self support, our group decided on a box at the coffee table for GSO directly. The money in the basket takes care of our group, area. If you want to contribute directly to GSO, you can. Alternate to birthday envelope if you don't want to mail it.

Fellowship and Waikiki, conscientious of which groups I give more than a dollar to. Groups without participation in service, rent, etc. Important to talk about where that money goes. Discuss giving back to AA. Be sure the money is being contributed to AA as a whole, the service structure.

I need to be self supporting I choose to be in AA, I identify as an alcoholic. Every area of my life I am self supporting. \$5 in home group, coffee costs more than \$1. Other groups I put in \$3. Problem, this we're going to be taking. It is time to give back. When I do the right thing I get good results.

Prudence and stability come to mind. When I don't know if I'm going to need that \$10, stability. I have been central office go through hard times during this time. I try to put a stable amount. However, sometimes I cannot. But when I pick up business, I can, and I feel a lot better. Pick an amount you can put in every time you go to a meeting.

Going through financial difficulty a few years ago. Old timer said she didn't see him contributing. I talked with elder statesmen and they called me down, and helped me work it out. It shouldn't give a darn who put what in the basket.

It's our program, it's a we program, not an us /them program.

Contribute I have my budget and know how I can support my home group, want people to see there is more than a dollar out there. Instead of lecturing, I feel I am an example when I contribute \$5

Small groups collect money, but don't give it to anything but a barbecue once a month. By example over time we got to help these meetings become groups, registered with GSO. Things start happening. Meeting gets bigger. When she was new, her group would tell newcomers if you are not an alcoholic please don't contribute.

Delegate Summary: Education, participation, communication. 15 items that are suggested talking points. Those three topics are indicative of the question.

Panel 4 - District 6, Kauai: Review proposed Self-Support Kit.

What's inside the Self-Support Kit:

Literature Catalog - GSR's should get one of these, and groups should see what is available for us.

Group Contributions Envelope - looks like the birthday envelope, but easy way for group to contribute to GSO. Makes it easy. Would like 3 in each kit.

Birthday Contribution Envelope to help make sure the AA message goes around the world, while expressing gratitude for one's sobriety. \$1 per year, or 1¢ a day.

Services provided by GSO pamphlet.

Traditions Checklist

Conference Report for current year

I am responsible wallet card

12 Traditions illustrated

AA Guidelines pamphlet

Self support packet with updated flyers

Self support card (green)

The AA Group - Where it All Began

We couldn't come up with any additional items to add to the kit.

Comments:

Those numbers/letters on the "F" stands for free, available from GSO.

Give new treasurer the pamphlet for the AA treasurer.

Delegate Summary: It's not easy making this entertaining. People won't buy what they cannot see. You haven't seen it because it's under development. 2011 Trustees finance committee reviewed it. It came out of the conference last year, hope to have it out soon. From you I take back that all the efforts have been worth it.

Panel 7 - District 12, Puna (Ken, Cynthia) : Consider proposal for AA Grapevine's Audio Strategy.

*From the 2011 Advisory Action*

After thoughtful and lengthy discussion, the Committee recommended that, in the spirit of being self-supporting while also protecting our Traditions of attraction, anonymity, and non-affiliation, A.A. Grapevine be permitted to utilize digital channels and current (commissionable) support and distribution technologies, such as, but not limited to, smart phones, tablets, e-readers, applications and commissioned online stores for the sale and distribution of magazines, books and products. The Committee requests that the Board insure that all contracts protect our Traditions, with the option to discontinue any and all contracts at any time. The Committee requests that a financial report be submitted to the 2012 Grapevine Conference Committee.

The Fellowship's Responsibility Declaration states, "When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help". To that statement, we could also add "by any means available".

Alcoholics Anonymous has always looked for new ways to reach the suffering alcoholic. Bill W. once said that this program should never become static; that we should embrace new ideas and different ways to keep our Fellowship growing.

One of the new ways that AA is embracing is reaching out through the Internet.

The Grapevine Magazine can be viewed online. Conference approved literature, like the "Big Book" and the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, can now be purchased online from third party vendors. They can be downloaded for viewing on your computer, smart phone, tablets and other digital readers.

Having the Fellowships literature available online is a great start. However, so far it has been limited to just the printed word.

The A.A. Grapevine Committee is proposing that approved digital audio clips also be considered for purchase online.

These audio clips could be readings of A.A. literature, recordings of workshops or sharing sessions, or even individual members personal stories.

The Grapevine Committee is suggesting that a phone line be established for members to call and record their stories. Members would be able to share just like they do in a meeting. Not having to submit ones story in writing could result in greater participation from the Fellowship, and encourage diversity.

These recordings would be edited if necessary, and then go through the Grapevines approval process.

After approval, the digital audio recordings would be available for purchase through the third party vendors that Grapevine contracts with.

The contract between the Grapevine and the third party vendors will have the option to cancel any and all contracts at any time. This assures that the Grapevine can terminate a contract if a vendors practice violates any of our Traditions.

Having digital audio available to the fellowship has many benefits. We could be reaching the person who cannot, or will not, read. People who do not have the time to sit down and open a book could listen to a chapter while driving to work, or walking the dog. Most importantly, the alcoholic who would rather die then attend a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous might get to listen to someone's story, and find his or her own road to recovery.

We realize that, like many new ideas, the Grapevine's Audio Strategy might encounter unforeseen challenges and growing pains. But we also know to trust in the process. The Fellowship will safeguard the Fellowship, as always.

Comments:

Agree digital/ audio is way to go.

Illiteracy - people can absorb by hearing, for those of us who cannot understand what they read. Nice to have something to refer to in my own home, when I'm not with the group.

Q. Did you say I could call someone and tell my story? There are proposals to do that.

If idea goes through, I would vote for it myself. In 1994 I was given cassette tape of the 12 and 12, and My Name is Bill W. When first sober, I didn't know what they were talking about in the Big Book. I have a college education but I didn't understand the Big Book. I was smart when I got here. The audiocassettes helped me. I still have them, and refer to them.

Audio, rooms online, we just can't see each other. I have utubes of Dr. Bob and Bill Wilson. It's great to be able to add the grapevine. And Tapes. Grateful for the internet.

Delegate Summary: This strategy could increase diversity, to be inclusive, and could increase sales. All good things.

Panel 8 - District 13, Tri-Island: Consider incorporating the service responsibilities and duties of the service position "Grapevine Representative" in the Service responsibilities and duties of the general Service Representative."

Matt: GSR everyone I talked with didn't think this was a good idea. GSR's are busy enough. You'd also loose about 1,000 service positions.

Canada and Spanish version 25% of population buys, GV 5% of population buys. There is no big conflicts. The service position were made up. Shifting duty to GSR (Matt will send to me).

Comments:

GV rep in our group frees up GSR from having to be there every day to education others about GV. We are a literature based meeting, one is GV based: read from GV and shares.

Unclear how this would be integrated into one. It would be tacked on to GSR pamphlet. Our group was against this.

GSR's role is to be a conduit between our group and AA as a whole. If you have a group that doesn't like the GV, and a GSR promoting the GV, feel the roles should be separate.

GV rep position, not always filled. Group not in favor on consolidating this. GV rep is a great service position to introduce someone to service.

Ditto. We have GV rep and it's an excellent service position. Watch people grow in that position. Not a good idea to take that service opportunity away. We have GV meeting. Don't take away opportunity for service. It's not a good thing.

Our group has more than 2-3 meetings a week. Our group orders 10 for their GV meeting. Give the 10 away when they get the next one. That's a great way to support the GV.

My HG is the GVHG. Our GV rep is not registered with GV online. I know others, and have talked to them about registering online. As GSRs/people in service, we can tell our GV reps they need to register on GV.org. Only 1,000 GV reps is not accurate.

Home group got me a GV subscription when I made 6 months. I've been subscribing ever since.

GV makes me laugh. I support it.

Get this online. Register online. Set this up: Meeting place Area 17 AA.

Q. If a group does not have a GV rep, does the GSR automatically step up? That's not stated clearly, it's a group choice.

My group tries to have a separate GV position. Being a GSR, a lot of people thought that, as GSR I have more responsibilities than I did. I was every position in the group, including GSR.

I read the service position for GV rep and you are supposed to know all of the literature already. It's a big responsibility. Stepped into GSR position and I'm learning that. May be a bit much to do both or to handle reasonably.

My group tries to have the full array of service position. When someone gets sick, etc. the group looks to me. I accept that responsibility. I don't think it's a good idea to add more to the GSR's responsibilities because I'm picking up the marbles that dropped anyway. They know they can depend on me. Tell them to try to find someone, but if they cannot.

Delegate Summary: When you rotate out as a delegate, you cannot rotate on to be a GSR. It's suggested Delegates become GV rep. If it goes to the GSR, past delegates couldn't be either one. Group consensus: this is not a desirable idea.

Panel 9 - District 10, Waikiki: Discuss a suggestion for revision of the pamphlet "Circles of Love and Service." There have been no changes since 1978.

I love the wording in here. It's up for some renovation. Has potential, need to be made visually appealing. Contemporary and invites reader into circles of love and service. Suggest the font be made bigger and moved to the top. People don't get past the circles to see what the pamphlet is about.

Relationship between GSO and GV has a three way split that looks like a Mercedes hood ornament.

Back of pamphlet has an image of gray haired man - our population is as diverse as the world we live in: women, young people, variety of ethnic group and sexual orientation. We need to honor everyone experience, reinforce a message that highlights our diverse population. Change image of man to a silhouette. Want everyone to feel a part of.

Some ideas: showed some graphics.

Beach meeting - took it to home group, one had 30 years in the program and had never seen it. One who worked in Central office had never seen it. Said get rid of it.

Group is excited about it being revised. It's short, it can be read in less than 15 minutes. Info is on how AA works. It's gateway to more literature. It's a leaflet. If attractive, it will get people to read more literature, which tells people more about the efficient function of AA as a whole.

Comments:

Seen this pamphlet in recovery. After 23 years of sobriety I read it. Redo it so it is not so busy and crazy, change graphic of the man, it looks like my boss.

This pamphlet is in all of our booklets. It has important information for us to carry the message. To keep this life, I've got to give it away.

I've been reading over this. I don't know anything about being a GSR, but I have this pamphlet that you have been discussing the 12 steps and traditions. Cosmetically you can do something, the information, no.

It looks like a target, with a peace sign in the middle, with a guy in the target. Then I read it, it's important stuff.

Delegate Summary: You need education on what psychedelic really is. It ain't red, blue and yellow. Who thinks it should be redesigned? Who thinks it should be redesigned with a cost of \$30 K? With a more attractive cover, maybe they might read it before they are 18 years sober.

Panel 10 - District 11, Kihei: Discuss request to add text from the dust jacket of the Third Edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, to the dust jacket of the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Big Book.

Karen: Initial request 2001.

Background info. Don't take offense to some of the wording. Based on precedent, request was not forwarded to 2002 GSC, but tabled. Problem with statement "foundation of recovery" is a false assertion. The recovery message is found. Change to First 164 pages... remain as is.

The use of language and careful choice of words. "This is the AA message" are the important words in this request. It's important the AA message be in there. When you look at the dust jacket. Important that the first introduction to the Big Book be clear, it is the AA message.

Is this the opinion of a few, or substantial unanimity in that district? Be thankful for work of committee on work of 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Can find fault on anything at any time. Trust our trusted servants.

Panel 47 GSC remember the vote to include the working First 164... etc. remain as is." Accurately reflects the wishes of AA at this time.

I gather the writer of this proposal wanted to include.

Comments:

Our group is in favor of this change.

I had the book in my hand. It took me 22 years to get the message.

Impromptu group conscience: heard it said a newcomer should attend a Book study meeting. I've never read the dustcover on the third edition. The important part to me, it's for the non AA members a window of our results. Mention the nature of the fatal progress of alcoholism. Encourage everyone to come back over the years. Group conscience, if it works, don't fix it. Most Big Book Meetings end up with the dust cover eventually being thrown into the trash.

Q. My home group started a (series not published by AA) study. Is this to change the first 164 pages? No.

Recited the preamble.

Delegate Summary: No clear sense from that. Going to take the right of decision on this.

Panel 11 - District 7, East Hawaii: Consider a request to add the AA Preamble to the front inside pages of the "Big Book," Alcoholics Anonymous.

District made it short. Should be brought back for discussion. In favor.

Preamble should be included. Newcomer will be exposed to preamble. Make the BB complete, with respect to the reading generally used at meetings. Does not mean it must be read at meetings. One official preamble could prevent use of other preambles.

East HI agrees the preamble should be included. It summarizes who we are and what the organization does. It makes the Big Book a Swiss Army Knife. Not changing the Big Book, just adding something else in.

Comments:

Preamble only exists in the GV. If it goes under, we need it in the Big Book.

Would like to see it added. Every book sold has a hook on the front page, introducing the book to the reader.

My home group is in favor of adding the preamble in the front of the Big Book.

My home group reads the preamble and should be the first this you see in the book.

It's important to have the preamble in the beginning pages. Not only alcoholics get the BB. It's in the library, we give books away, i.e. to treatment centers, and the general public may read it. It's a good clarification.

We're talking about changing the Big Book. People don't like that. We all realize this is a different world, people don't want the BB changed. The Dust cover is an explanation of what is in the book. The first 164 pages, the "sacred part". The Dr.'s Opinion and Dr. Bob's story are important too. The critical part of the big book to a lot of people who don't want it changed, whether it's a good suggestion or not. People see the first 164 pages as something that shouldn't be changed. It's not saying the preamble isn't important.

Linda (clarification): If memory serves her correctly, it didn't pass at the last conference because it was not specific enough.

Our home group is in the hospital, but other meetings, if someone doesn't show up. But if you have the Big Book, you have everything you need.

It's about 17 pages before you get to page 1 of the first 164 pages of the program. My belief, adding the preamble to the first page, does not change the first 164 pages.



I have meeting in a pocket. There are things about the preamble that bother me. This is little more than a consolidation of opinion. I want the newcomer to go to where the solution is. It's not mentioned in the preamble.

Group conscience was unanimous, it should be added. My personal opinion, the book should not be static. A lot in the Big Book bugs me. A lot of people are concerned about changing the text. Those people will not be around forever. As a 24 year old I was able to receive the message of alcoholics anonymous in spite of.

When I first got sober in Mass, they read the preamble at every meeting I went to. When I heard the word hope, it changed my view of how to get sober. I'm tired of hearing How It works and hearing the word God. Start with chapter 1, not chapter 5.

Read Preamble in the GV. The program of AA is the book. It's not necessarily the meetings we go to, it's the book that keeps me sober.

When something comes up, it gets stuff going. When I first came here it wasn't alcohol that I thought I had a problem with. I think it should be in the book.

There is basically a text that the preamble came from and that is the preamble to the first edition of the Big Book.

Delegate Summary: Counted 9 years and 3 nays. I'd like to see this agenda item addressed for it's merits and not so much all dragged out about which first pages. I liked the comment that it's already there - get past the blank pages to find it. But I will listen carefully also.

Panel 12 - District 9, Central North Shore: Consider a suggestion that AA establish a presence on Facebook for the purpose of providing information about AA to the public; this presence would serve as an informational resource only, with no interpersonal capabilities.

Eric: reaction pretty intense. A lot goes into having an informed group conscience.

George: Please open your hearts and minds. I want the hand of AA to always be there. As of last month Facebook has 845 million users. Two years ago 41.6% of US population had a FB page. FB has a minimum age qualification 16 years (13?) 7.5 M admit to begin under 13. 5 M admit to being under 10. If they aren't alcoholics, they may have family members interested in topic.

It's for information only, not posting. Strictly informational. There is FB page that says Alcoholics Anonymous. If you look up Jane Doe, you see several Jane Does. So we'd flush it out and designate it properly so they would know it is the official site.

Security concern. No greater concern than visiting our website.

Other issue we addressed, we want to include the people in charge would have the authority to make changes, correct security concerns, shut down instantly if something unforeseen happens. We can shut it off and fix it. It's a natural progression.

Valerie: The FB pages seems to have been built by alcoholics, has a lot of links to our main site. Also to Dr. Bob's home, Wikipedia stuff, and other links. It's doubtful that we can use that. On the whole, although all meetings is autonomous, GSO must ask for directions on such matters. GSO has a website. Most AA intergroups and areas have websites that we can go to. There are a lot of links to GSO. FB might be something for young people. You are only going to go looking for it if you want help. Modern communication used unselfishly.

Understanding anonymity could have hard caused by hackers etc. There is a security risk. Consensus, it's not necessary. You already have search engines, and you can find AA.

Comments:

I'm not a FB user. It is what everyone is using. Move into the next century, be proactive. It is a good idea to think about using this service.

Studies, employers are using social media engines, new FB attitude is tie in, they put in date they got sober, etc. 845 M potential customers. It's tied to mass marketing. It's running because we are buying. They won't put AA on it without links. Employers are using FB to see who an applicant really is.

If we want info on AA we can google it and it will direct us to AA and get us where we need to go. Nobody monitors that, but it's easy for someone to monitor FB

Clarification: FB account is different from FB page.

Group is against it. FB It's in its' infancy. It hasn't gone through growth like AA has that resulted in the tradition. You do need to have email and personal page. Too late, members have made those pages. The personal anonymity is more in danger to AA message than to the FB pages. Employers do use FB to gather info. FB stores where we go on FB. And FB gives suggestions based on where I visit. This is looking at the yellow pages where there are only things you visited. FB uses unethical practices in personal information dissemination. AA is not ready for this, and doesn't know what it is dealing with. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation. It is not viable now.

Ditto. The traditions govern this body. Tradition 6, we don't endorse. If AA is on FB we are endorsing FB. If we have a website, it belongs to us, we purchased the domain. FB is not AA. AA publishes our material, we own our own. We have no decision on what FB does.

Some FB experience. Interested in seeing what was on the in regard to anonymity 80% of what I saw was negative experiences in AA. Why AA doesn't work. Someone famous broke their anonymity and showed support for the 12 step programs. I'm on the fence on this. When I see mostly negative about AA, I'd like to see more positive.

I'm against this, the biggest one is I read the fine print. You put a FB page up, you don't own it any more, FB does. I deleted my page. All the information that I had had on there before was right there. Once the info is there, it's theirs.

GSO - someone/ one person behind it representing AA. What would they be posting? Stuff we could open the book and read. Scary, who is posting, we don't have a name who is posting this.

If you decide to visit it, that's your decision. This is different. Let those who are curious. This is the age of technology. Move with it, or get out and get lost.

Largely people who sign up for FB are not aware of privacy setting. They may not know they are breaking anonymity by visiting AA page. Transparency of privacy setting. And privacy settings are changing all the time.

6<sup>th</sup> tradition. When we put an attraction add on TV or in the Newspaper, we aren't putting their name on the advertisement.

First was in support, but this has given me another view. Thought of hackers, is concerned. There is minimal possibility but someone who want to get revenge, how are we doing to control what is being said. How do we keep it contained? Who would be managing the site? How are we representing AA? We don't know who is watching our posts. We have responsibility to represent the program to the best of our ability.

My concern is Lack control on the advertising. Non AA adds.

PI committee in NY are trusted servants. This is a static page. No one can post.

Day mining in facebook. Individual who doesn't know about privacy setting, may think FB is OK because AA has a page on it.

Delegate Summary: Promises to be the hot topic this year. The Theme: Anonymity: Our Spiritual Responsibility in a Digital Age.

We have a couple of Yesses, but the voice of reason is caution. In AA we need to look at perceptions when we're talking about public information. This is an agenda item for Public Information Committee. We have security concerns, is it inclusive, who would be target, it could be harmful, it could be perceived a promotional, could be dangerous. Could be perceived as endorsement. Exercise caution. Try and remember to trust your trusted servants.

Panel 13 - District 5 No Ka 'Oi: Discuss request related to adding language referring to current media to Tradition Eleven.

Ed: it's a little off, it's changing the words, not adding words. We did discussed and went back and forth. We had a group conscience/district conscience. Agreed by way of group conscience: No, we don't need to change the wording of the 11<sup>th</sup> traditions.

Two changes being discussed, the short form and the long form of the 11<sup>th</sup> tradition.

Christi: Read the long form is in the back of the 12 and 12. The spirit of anonymity is implied. Learning and understand that comes from studies and sharing. It takes a gentle work to education offenders.

Maria: Issue was, when I was a young person I was told about AA, now I'm an older person. We get wisdom. I was young, dumb and full of ambition. I thought it was BS. Now I understand what my sponsor taught me, and why. Changing/adding? Why? What are we morons? If you have a good sponsor, why would you need anything else? It's our responsibility to education. The inventory actions were about communication, education.

David: Refer back to GS pack. Tradition developed by group, not any one person. If we harden too much we might crush the spirit. Might imagine we had said the last word and expect others to expect ours as the last word. Tradition 1 should be updated to reflect the sign of the time. The change is what keeps us strong. Our public relations policy.... Personal anonymity in the public media."

Chuck: our group is split. We want Delegate to use right of decision after hearing all the information.

Comments:

Group thought it was a good idea. Minority in our district. Some felt strongly. Our strength is in our history. Change is what keeps us strong. Sponsor/ past trustee told me to embrace change. We felt it would be a good thing - Anonymity slips happening in social media. People see press, radio and films and take that literally.

3 people showed up for the group meetings regarding this agenda item. Majority was for it. Look into the wording. It's alright, start the process. A few were against it. It isn't broke, why fix it? 13 for 3 against.

Quoted the tradition. "at the level" not above the level, not below the level. With this request to change the wording, is unnecessary. We are broad enough to include a lot of things. All things public. Personal anonymity.

District was into reviewing. Consider. It is possible to become a floor action. Consensus, yes, review.

As a member of AA, our district did discuss this, and it's asking you to discuss this and consider changing the language. I voted we should change this tradition to be specific. Misunderstood by newcomer, there is a loophole when it comes to social media.

I forgot about the money angle. And all the books that stated clearly that tradition. The printing costs to change that tradition.

Meeting in CA said at the level or press radio and media. Movies aren't made with film anymore. Change should include "Media" It's everything public. I think it should be changed.

When AA started there was no TV and film. As we go into the digital age, it should be added. Saying "media" would do that.

Point of reference. The traditions were ratified in 1953 so we already had TV. Don't need to update the wording, keep it simple.

Delegate Summary: I don't think the traditions have been changed. Some groups have inadvertently typed in changes when they write their group formats. I can't those when I go to those groups because I am a traditions police. It seems Bill W. said to embrace change, but his friend Bob S. said keep it simple, lets not louse this up." If we add social media, what comes next? What is next? I have noted your significant input and appreciate it very much.

4:39 PM Motion to adjourn by Cynthia, seconded by Lauren Host DCM announcements, Adjourn with Declaration of Unity

**Hawaii Area 17 Inform the Delegate Assembly  
Sunday April 15, 2012  
Hosted by Diamond Head, District 1**

9:00 AM Call to Order Serenity Prayer, Host DCM announcements

- Reading -AA Service Manual S 20, "Why Do We Need a conference?"

Panel 14 - District 1, Diamond Head: Discuss a suggestion to develop a pamphlet for the alcoholic with mental illness.

Kevin: AA pamphlet AA and Medication has a section written by a group of doctors. Part of that is attached to Living Sober. For many years we've had something to address medication. We recognize alcoholics not immune to other diseases. Because of difficulties members have had with drugs, some take position that members should not take medication. This can mean disaster for some members.

Steve: Feelings of members of home group- brought up a lot of emotions, and responses not relevant to the topic. The more information we provide on this topic, the better. Members are not professionals in the field of mental health. Communicate a message of hope for the alcoholic with mental illness. Would not like language that attempts to diagnose or prescribe treatment for those who are mentally ill. Let person with MI know they are welcome, and there is hope for recovery from alcoholism.

On a personal level. In AA, because of breakdown is social services, people come to us who have a host of issues that have nothing to do with alcoholism, but also have alcoholism, and we need to address this.

Comments:

In favor of this pamphlet and the language in the presentation. In the field, one thing that irks me, the fellow professionals, say "you AA's don't like our clients that take medication." This pamphlet would be good for professionals.

In his home group there are people who are on medication. This has been addressed already, do we need another pamphlet? Isn't this the insanity that precedes the first drink.

I saw hope for people with mental health issues is in reading "How it Works."  
Take this message to others in psych wards.

Speaks to me personally, two in family with mental health issues and I'm not so sure about myself. Brother in and out of AA, trying to do the program. Before you make any judgments, you need to know more about mentally ill who need to take meds.

Family member on medication got sober and stayed sober for 10 years. We all have different issues. Someone who knew him should have told him "Maybe you need to be on your medication." A pamphlet about this might be helpful. People who don't deal with mentally ill might be afraid. Alcoholism masks itself as mental illness when we get here. Newcomers don't make good decisions, people take advantage of them. We need to be responsible and mindful. It all works out if we give them room to work it out. We're not doctors and shouldn't pretend to be doctors.

Situations in my district where police were called, violent things and disruptions. We rub elbows with everyone. Welcome anything that helps me reach out the hand of AA while at the same time protecting our common welfare.

People in house I run have to be administered medication. Pamphlet is an awesome idea. Guys in the house refuse to take medication because scared or worried about their sobriety Singleness of purpose - we are trying to recover from alcoholism.

Like to speak to this and not say these people and those people. In my years in the field, I was the problem for years and told them they had to tough it out, like I was/did. I find out the hard way about toughing it out. Then I was educated to the facts regarding PTSD issues and there is no shame in taking what is needed for health. It should be addresses. Doctors do this stuff, I don't. There is a wonderful pamphlet on medication.

Topic hits home. Turned to you guys and you helped me with my issues and you were able to help me, along with outside help. Doctors orders, and working the steps, I am no different or better from any of them. I'm able to work with clients now. Here I learn what the disease is all about.

Support this pamphlet. A question: who is the pamphlet for, the professional community or us? Concerned we do not diagnose, and are not judgmental. People in AA do not have the right to tell others not to take their medications. Professionals are qualified to make that call. We direct them to the proper professionals.

Meetings in parks, people who are homeless and have people who have mental illness. I'm for it, but what goes on the pamphlet? What do I do with them? The pamphlet will tell me what a mental illness is. Some people in the parks get sober, some don't. Maybe you could include how we treat these people. What entities to send them to.

Could you address who this came from, why it's needed? The Pamphlet is AA and medications has been around for more than 10 years. It's also a report from a group of doctors in the Living Sober Book. In 2007 this issue came up for vote. They were doing a revision for AA and Medication. It was revised with mental illness in mind. 5 years later, the issue came up again we need our own pamphlet. It's coming from doctors in AA who would like something for their patients who have mental illness.

Linda McD. Discussion. This is not replacing this current pamphlet. It targets the members who have special needs, and help those who do not have special needs and know people who do.

Read forward to BB: AA doesn't take any medical point of view. Support the pamphlet.

Read from Pamphlet, many alcoholics have. Deal with the issues with unconditional love.

Q. Sounds like it's geared more toward the person with mental illness. Confused about the definition of mental illness. What does it include? The definition has changed in AA literature and gotten bigger. According to people in my home group, we are the elite of the mentally ill.

Delegate Summary: Hearing majority approve with caveat that the pamphlet would be geared toward the subject of mental illness not the diagnoses thereof or the medication thereof.

People asked me yesterday for more information on the conference process. Service manual you will find the different conference committees. The conference operated on a committee system. The first two days, the committees talk about their agenda items. Come back together and discuss certain items passed on by the committee as a whole conference.

## Introduction to Concepts 1 - 5 by Past Delegates-

Scott Panel 49 - Concept 1 Responsibility and authority for A.A. world service structure

Keith Panel 55 - Concept 2 Authority and maintenance of world services

Elizabeth Panel 59 - Concept 3 "Right of Decision" and 4 "Right of Participation"

Dick Panel 39 - Concept 5 "Right of Appeal"

At the Mic:

Had terrible time with concepts and traditions. At panels people shared their personal experiences. That is what I can understand. Spirituality and unconditional love of our fellowship.

Are any of you doing a concepts study? Yes, on the phone. Might start a meeting. Interested in participating in a concepts study.

Experiences at the conference? The other delegates wanted to hear my opinion.

Action, examples, integrating what I've learned I hear the language of the heart and becomes a part of me.

What's the worst tradition violation that you're willing to confess to? First assembly, told group it was important, took the money but it was really about coming to Oahu.

Had the humbling experience of violation Tradition 11 - towed the line. Tagged at AA meetings, tagged by others, don't like it. Try to do better, talk about digital anonymity. Misunderstanding about what traditions 11 and 12 are about.

It's important to my sobriety to adhere to those.

Orientation assembly, things go on, and I was hooked. Want to come back. It is a process, we learn and we pass it on.

Regarding the concepts, more will be revealed. When things come up, you will know what to do.

What did you experience spiritually seeing the concepts in action? My experience was, what is a convict like me doing in a place like this.

Line item budget assembly in past panel. Vote taken, right of appeal. His side loss, people listened but did not change their mind. After that Ask it Basket, encouraged everyone, even if you don't like it, follow along with group conscience.

Q about process we are here doing/recommendation. When we get these recommendation, we get a one liner. There doesn't seem to be any background around it, foundation for moving forward. Understand we dig deeper. If, for instance had a solution how to protect the site, it would have given us more basis. Is there a reason why proposals come to us with not background.

## Workshop - Safety in AA, Our Common Welfare (Including 2 minute summaries from 8 small groups)

Group 1: Have greeters, use common sense, watch parking lots, keep eye on each other, set up part of room for newcomers, birthday meetings, picnics, Etc.

13<sup>th</sup> steppers, Hijack meeting - when out of hand, when asked to be quiet, don't cooperate. Once group shut meeting down and went somewhere else.

Safety wheelchair accessibility, hearing disability use pamphlets, workshops on sponsorships, educate each other what we do and don't do in AA. We don't kick people out. But it's not true that anything goes in AA.

Group 8: Greeters are nice, have coffee, communicate recovery in food, dress, manners, share, people notice.

Atmosphere of recovery. Where the meeting is can be pleasing. Newcomers notice how our meetings are organized, acknowledge newcomer. Some go into 1<sup>st</sup> step meeting if newcomers. Please hold sharing if you've had a drink, talk with them after the meeting, newcomer packets, regular meeting times, share literature. Schedules with phone numbers, We have a responsibility to help newcomer feel welcome.

Keep meeting safe, liaison sponsor for person new to meeting.

Group 2: 1. Greeters at the door, introduce yourself to newcomers, newcomer welcome packets, phone list, register group at GSO so the meeting can be found, invite newcomers to the meeting after the meeting, welcoming statement in the meeting format, give out chips at meeting, provide snacks and refreshments  
2. Sponsors can lead by example, teach traditions to sponsees, not everyone in the room is spiritual, men work with men and women work with women, share at meetings our own experience,

Group 3: 1. Be more accessible with people with special needs. What others said.  
2. Share the pamphlets and big book. Encourage newcomers to be a part of, service, sponsorship, stick to the AA tradition and reminding them they are in AA not any other 12 step program, show up early, be an example, being a good sponsor, be gentle loving caring and sharing your ES and H. Treat with love and tolerance, being respectful showing how you care for your home group shows newcomer where you are at.

Group 4: 1. Said same things, also suggested need a sign to help find your meetings.  
Safety - don't want to exclude, people to help people who are disabled. Be inviting, no matter what, they may still need up. HG members need to also be inviting. Intro in format, designate it's an AA meeting.  
2. Invite newcomers to social event, give instruction so don't engage in predatory activities. Take responsibility, emergency of any kind, we have cell phones call 911.

Group 6: Have greeters, ask newcomers to share, designate a certain time, last 15 minutes, raise awareness of accessibility on meeting schedules, have another code on meeting schedule for accessibility. and info to accommodate accessibility.  
2. Sponsorship better informs sponsees on traditions and steps. Work the steps, step up and be more responsive.

Group 7: 1. Greeting of hello or how are you, physically challenged persons can enter, extra chairs for beach meetings, encourage new people to participate.  
2. There are general and specific sponsoring needs, mindful of physically violent persons who may need assistance, make announcement.  
3. Make sure that any issues that arise are address immediately to the appropriate person, if police report need to be notified,.

Group 5: Predators/on medication: pull the person out of room, elder statesman talk with them and explain how an AA meeting is run. Illegal activity - call the cops. 13th step - group say it can be male or female. Open/closed meeting discussion - breaking anonymity at open meeting,  
2. Closed meetings, does an addict stay when in AA? Pamphlet on Types of meetings. Solution important for groups to have annual group inventories. Get someone to facilitate your meetings. Looking for anyone that an sign.

12:10 PM      Lunch (Finance Committee Meeting)

Announcements:

Matt DCM 13: - Flyers for the May committee meeting are available. The site will be the Lahaina United Methodist Church on Baker St. in downtown Lahaina. The contact person will be Matt.

- DCM (Matt) attended PRAASA in Bellingham, WA.
- Date for Crossing to Molokai will be around October.
- Lost Alt. DCM, Jesse, to a job in China.

GSR, DCM, Standing Committee Chairs and Officers Roundtables

DCMs: Finance committee listed mailing addressed for contributions, and info on that.  
Asked to share how they encourage financial contribution suggestions: obligation to Home Group is primary responsibility.

When districts are given \$ to hold assemblies, what to do with it? Some send back, some rely on it for flights.  
Change percentage in pie chart, of suggested contribution amounts.  
Look at budget and priorities, if no funds those priorities won't be.  
It's a spiritual program we live in faith, not fear. We're not down to our prudent reserve.

Committees: each committee reported on their progress. (Hugh, website)  
CEC: Still in the process of identifying where needs are  
Need to be more cognizant of the elderly - identify problems with alcohol  
Still trying to gain access to the elderly in nursing homes, their homes etc  
Educate families that allowing the elderly to drink to the end is not maximizing quality of life

PI: Has people on Big Island and Oahu. need people on Maui and Kauai to distribute meeting schedules etc.  
In March did 2 health fairs in Pahoa and Hilo

CPC: Mathea doing a phenomenal job for CPC, getting information to physicians. Working on getting to the decision makers in churches.  
Getting information to new nursing students as to what AA is all about.

Grapevine: having difficulty getting people in service with the committee, to get the message out about the grapevine.

Hospitals: It is the groups that do the service, need to get the groups more involved with area committee work

All: Reserve a slot on May 5 for Standing Committees to present at the intergroup open house

Group 2 GSRs: service rotation. Elder statesmen that get involved, take ownership, feel they have power, distracting to newcomer who don't know they can be in service. Statement on rotation, enforcing rotation, having job description laid out, expiration date on service and service requirement. Announce available service positions.  
Low attendance in some groups - attend other groups and announce need for support. Small home group with large group. Bring food. Show up at district or intergroup and announce support.

Group 1 GSRs: Three questions How to get groups to listen to GSR : personal share, attraction not promotion, announcement share, bullet point. Put in home group email list, print out report, available before and after meetings. Put in 7<sup>th</sup> tradition basket.  
Volunteers for service - bring sponsees, flyers, mentor, express personal experience joy of service, thank those in service. Service coordinator position. 3. Meeting disruptions, court papers, people talking - meetings are autonomous, give benefit of the doubt, anyone can get sober too.

Officers: 1. Facilitate smaller groups of GSRs at round tables. 2. Suggestion of AA meetings at assemblies - no recommendation made. 3. Archives/ Archives committee chair - schedule a phone conference to discuss when all members are available.

CEC, Rochelle: Marianne F. attended the Seniors in Sobriety conference and reported. Share how CEC started. Hawaii might think about hosting the 10<sup>th</sup> S.I.S. Conference in 2015.  
Attended a Celebration of life for Stan B.  
Since February, Lena recruited her (Corrections) to reach elders in OCCC. Welcome wahines to wishes to be a speaker, to call Rochelle. Be cognizant of elders with special needs and be more inclusive. We tend to forget about those with hearing problems, etc. we can be more inclusive if we are more considerate. Leeward district has 11 elder related institutions. Next step is to talk about how to connect with them.

Mynah, Kathy: 8<sup>th</sup> issue was posted on website and sent to print on April 11<sup>th</sup> 2012. FYI was reformatted. Condensed announcement page. Will include anything sent to her. Asked for personal experiences and reflections on PRAASA, don't always need officers report, want to hear from you, what you care about and are passionate about. Next issue deadline is May 11<sup>th</sup>. I welcome articles.



PI, Chris: Anyone on Kauai and Maui contact her if there are health fairs or PI entities that can use their help. Attended a Resource Fair: attended Hawaii Fairs community Expo. Took pamphlets, PI literature, had a booth. Many agencies took our meeting schedules and pamphlets. Coordinator took photo - she discussed anonymity and asked to not be in photos as we are anonymous. Next, I attended the Puna Health Fair: talked to people in health services community. They wanted schedules as well as literature.

Website, Hugh: Did a walk through of website at last committee meeting. Will repeat that at this assembly. Changed distribution list, area17aa mailing list, no one can reach all the GSRs in district mailing list. DCMs, if you have a district mailing list, and you send it to me, all GSR's on mailing list will receive area17all.

Hospitals, Jim: Informed a group has been taking a meeting to queens hospital adolescent unit. They've asked for a second meeting at the same center. His group does not feel capable of providing that for them. So, if a group has folks willing to take a meeting to the hospital, contact Jim, and send him your contact information. Perhaps set up an additional meeting for young people at Queens.

Page 10 of new MB, bedside manners column is there. There is a proposal to change our area 17 S and G to include hospitals and treatment to merge the two committee into one. Will discuss at committee meeting in May. And brought to the floor, we hope, in the August Budget Assembly.

Q. Queens meeting is a closed meeting. Ask Bad Brains, they host a meeting there.

GV, Clifford: Help yourself to the free old GV things at the GV table.

On Maui I attend intergroup to show that area exists, exhibiting display at events and continue to do this.

I encourage you to subscribe to GV or LV.

Highlights of GV newsletter: AA grapevine.org. has a new address and is saving over \$50 K per year in rent.

GV Board planning meeting took place in March.

GV shipping will increase this September.

GV Quote is coming in June 2012.

Available in April e- books: Emotional Sobriety and Emotional Sobriety II, Step By Step. In May: Young and Sober Language of the Heart, The Best of Bill, and The Best of Bill in Spanish are currently available at aagrapevine.org.

Convention, Zeke: Budget finalized for last year. Forgot copies, will give to area and post. Looking for officers for next Convention. Chair, Neighbor island member can apply, if you qualify. In accordance with AA guidelines, read part about profit. 2011 convention, we have a balance, Area will receive a check, intergroup will receive a check, total disbursements of \$11 K (see Zeke's report for amounts), in accordance of guidelines.

Asking for us to spend \$1,500 of convention money to purchase new computers. If it has to wait until August, computers may not last.

Let me know if you want to get involved with Convention.

CPC, Susan: Another wonderful assembly! Many thanks to the Diamond Head District for a great location and fabulous food.

Many exciting things are happening in CPC and the assembly gave me an opportunity to informally meet with committee members and lend support where needed.

On Kauai CPC has contacted 110 physicians and is currently focusing on the clergy.

Big Island is planning a September event focusing on human resource professionals.

We discussed the use of advertising as attraction rather than promotion with Oahu CPC.

On Maui, they keep putting one foot in front of the other, doing the next right thing by informing the professional community that we are here for them when needed.

We also welcome a new CPC member from Puna: Marcia, many thanks for stepping forward.

Chair, Cheryl: Asked for a consensus of raised hands to support the Convention purchasing new computers before their computers die. Unanimous, none opposed.

**Announcements:**

Linda McD.: Please see her to schedule Delegate Report Backs.

DCM, Intergroup Chair Reports:

DCM #17, Waianae for Bart: Attendance at the monthly meetings remains small. We have a core group of 5 GSR's plus a GV Rep who regularly attend district meetings. Our secretary who provides much-valued experience, has been absent for the past few months, and I've gotten word he wants to step down. Plenty of opportunity for service in the Waianae District!

After hearing at the last assembly that some districts set aside money to help GSRs attend off-island assemblies, Waianae District is discussing budgeting a certain amount of money to help home groups offset expenses in an effort to get more GSRs to participate when travel is involved. We are fortunate to have enough money to think about doing this. Although the details still have to be worked out, I'd like to see home group contribute what money they can before the district votes to help out. Perhaps home groups would be able to get help from the money the Area has budgeted for travel as well. Thank you for letting me be of service.

Ken, Puna #12 DCM : We have 7 GSR's ,one alternate and intergroup chair. We're hosting the Budget Assembly Aug 18-19 please try to register early so everyone has a bed to sleep in. Working with East Hi intergroup and district to host Founders day and Delegate report back June 10, and E meets W picnic. Workshop. sharing session for concepts, 3 legacies, sponsorship. Visiting to talk about safety in AA.

DCM 11, Kihei, Karen: Thank you to Diamond Head District for hosting this assembly. Kihei District has 5 GSR's who regularly attend District meetings. We have chairs for Cooperation with the Elder Community and Corrections. We also have a couple of members who are working on Public Information. We have a couple of other members who do not have District positions, but attend District meetings. Our recording secretary resigned because of job issues, however someone has stepped forward, and we will elect a secretary at the next District meeting.

At our last District meeting we voted to distribute meeting schedules to hotels in our district.

I was the only member from our District to attend PRAASA and I am grateful for the opportunity. I along with the two other DCM's on Maui participated in a Report Back before the Maui Central Office Bash. It was interesting that each of us brought back something different from PRAASA.

We are currently making plans for a Dinner Theater which will be held in Kihei on October 7. We will be reviving an event that was very successful when it was done in 2008. The purpose of the event is to inform more people about General Service, encourage more people to become involved and to show that we have fun in Alcoholics Anonymous.

**DCM #4 Windward, Suzanne:**

Our district has been focusing on developing the Agenda Item D for presentation to this assembly.

We are already in the process of scouting out a location for the January Orientation Assembly to be hosted by District #4 and the Holiday Alcahons.

We are also in search of a location for the Holiday Alcahons.

Our district is suffering financially. The total Reserve and Funding Commitments are \$325.00. The total working funds available in excess of reserve are \$174.52.

We want to host a district workshop this year, but may not be able to due to financial restraints.

We are looking forward to our Delegate reporting back to us from the GSC, in June.

We continue to caravan to meetings as a district.

We have finalized our District #4 Guidelines.

Our Alt DCM, Linda, and a number of GSRs attended PRAASA.

We have 2 meetings hosted by TYG, held weekly at the HI State Hospital and Castle Med. Center, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

Thank you for your time and attention. In Loving Service.

DCM 3 Leeward, Dianne: My name is Diane and I'm an alcoholic. I serve as the DCM for the Leeward District 3 on Oahu. I am sad to report that one of our GSR's, Les M. from Manic Mondays died in a hiking accident on March 18<sup>th</sup>. He was a widowed single dad and left two teenage daughters. He will be greatly missed by his family, his many hiking buddies and by A.A. in the Leeward District.

We published our fourth newsletter in March. The content was an invitation for home groups to have a voice in A.A. as a whole by participating in the Inform the Delegate process. We also had a very successful Spring Shindig on March 31<sup>st</sup>. There were over 40 people in attendance for the picnic of chicken and burgers on the grill and potluck sides. Participants were asked to complete a brief District Inventory questionnaire, and the results were compiled and presented at our District meeting in April. The afternoon also included games and door prizes.

We have three new members on the District Committee as of our April meeting. They include a new GSR, A.J. P. from Intergalactic Space Cadets, Valerie V. from a home group that has decided to be a part of our District, and Rebecca L. who was elected to the position of Registrar for the District. I remain grateful for the opportunity to be in service.

DCM #10 Waikiki, Alan: Aloha Panel 61. Thank you District 1, Kevin and Gang for hosting assembly. Waikiki district has been really good. District participation has been about 10-11 in attendance. This weekend we have 3 GSRs in attendance SNL- JD, Bad Brains- Tim, and 12 Coconuts Leiland. Participate in district mtgs are good but we're working getting more participation at assemblies. Thank you Linda for your topic and the groups in Waikiki came thru for our presentation. Past Easter, Happy Hour had their usual Easter Picnic and attendance was good, "Great speaker"! I was fortunate that Waikiki District had enough funds in treasury that they could send me to PRAASA, awesome experience. That's all.

Billy, East Hawaii Intergroup: Revised telepacket, Founders Day is June 10<sup>th</sup> and delegate report. We will hold Unity Day with districts and intergroup August 26<sup>th</sup>. Excited.

Jessica, Oahu Intergroup Chair, Jessica: Oahu AA Central Office moved.

Upcoming events:

Intergroup Campout next week at Bellows preregistration required.

May 5 Central office Open House 9-5 meetings and potlucks.

June 14 Bill & Lois Dinner Hickam preregistration required.

June 23 Founders Day at McCoy Pavilion (free)

Luau \$16

Dance TBA

FYI Hangloose held on Thursday night in Kaneohe has an American Sign Language Interpreter.

Tommy, DCM West HI #8: Thank you Diamond Head District for hosting this great inform the delegate assembly. I want thank all the GSR's from west Hawaii district 8 and their home groups for attending this assembly to inform the delegate about your home groups conscious on these agenda items. We have 7 GSRs and 1 alternate in attendance this weekend much mahalos again.

West Hawaii district 8 is doing well and it has been great pleasure working with the GSR's on informing there groups and getting the conscious straight from the AA's themselves. Being the second year of the panel made it much easier to get these agenda items out to the groups and then getting a consensus for district. We average 10 - 16 GSR's at our district meetings. Our district also funded my trip to PRAASA which was very helpful with our agenda item topics.

We have a few events set up in the future; one is our Founders day event which will be held at Hapuna beach State Park on June 9, 2012. We will also have the delegates report back at this event, Linda go give 'em at the GSC. I would like to thank Chadwick for chairing this event. Also on August 25, 2012 we will have a unity day event at Lindsey Park in Kamuela, we are grateful that the Hilo district and the Puna District, will be joining us for the small competition Of softball, volleyball, and bacce ball for the old east meets west uniting the entire island. And not forgetting we would like to invite east Hawaii inter group to join us and any who wants to get froggy and fly over. I also want to thank Mark L. for stepping up and getting this event rolling and organized.

I want to put out a special thanks to our west Hawaii webmaster for opening up a district 8 page on their web site westhawaiiiaa.org. We will soon be loading all of our district agendas, minutes and treasurer's reports on this page. You also can visit these new events on this page and get a direct e-mail link to the chairpersons if you have any questions or concerns.

We are also planning a traditions work shop which I reported before but is still trying to put together, we are looking to have it in October because district 8 is already starting to gear up for the area election assembly on November 17 & 18 2012 in Kailua Kona. The event will be held at the Hale Halawai Pavilion in downtown Kailua Kona, Hope to see you all there. Mahalo With love and service,

DCM Eric, North Shore #9: District 9 continues to function even though membership is sparse. Several groups' GSRs have come and gone while there have been a couple groups who have been consistently involved throughout this panel.

We have benefitted from the discussion over this year's topics and were grateful for the opportunity to be at the Assembly.

Alfred, DCM East HI #7: Our Delegates report back will be on founders day June 10 at Carl Smith park.

We got our East Meets West coming up on Aug. 25 of this year.. looking forward to watching East Hawaii and West Hawaii get together.

Got 1 new GSR added into our area.

Right now our district is small but little by little we are getting more participation.

Jack, DCM Honolulu #2: Thank you to Diamond Head Dist. For their great job with the Inform the Delegate Assembly. Kevin, you and your committee have done yourselves a very nice job.

All is well with District #2 at this time. I have been contacting dark meetings to gather information on how they are doing, and how dist. can help.

After about 3 years of talking about fund raising for dist. We have made a decision to get into action. We will hold a Bunny Hop Dance, and meeting. Funds go to help fund Honolulu District. Continuing to build a solid co April 21<sup>st</sup>. Flyers on the table. Thank you Ernest for getting the ball rolling on this meeting at 7PM with the dance from 8:00-11:45 PM

Moise DCM Kauai #6: Hi my name is Mo, DCM6 of Kauai.

I'm going to keep it simple lets start with groups that send their GSRs to district meetings.

South Shore has once a month speaker potluck meeting, always a plus when food is included.

East side, groups with game day on the first weekend of the month and workshop of concepts and BBQ . Then water meeting to follow on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month. Working GSR of having the group workshop in December. Total member from Kauai is 13.

No Ka `Oi #5, Ed: Still doing all four service positions. Help PRAASA report with other districts and central office. Attended PRAASA, New meeting in our district. 6 GSR's here today from Maui. Do have 3 and ½ committee chairs still. I'm grateful to serve.

Kevin DCM #1 Diamond Head:30+ people involved today, Barbara was overall chair, Steve was transportation, Carmello and Michelle were registration, Lissa was food and beverage, Justin was homestay, Barbara was all of the above. These events bring us a lot closer, even though we are reluctant to get close. And Christy, thank you for being of service for 18 years.

Summary, Cheryl Inform the Delegate Assembly  
April 15 - 15, 2012

What to Take Back to Your Home Group

- Informing our Delegate - The focus of the Inform the Delegate Assembly was giving our Delegate feedback on the fourteen topics she selected.
- o Each District researched their assigned topic and presented that information at the Assembly.
- o Everyone had an opportunity to carry the message of their home group to the Delegate on every topic.
- o Our Delegate will take that message to the General Service Conference in New York next week.
- o After she returns, she will meet with all Districts and give a report back on the conference. In this way, the chain of information is passed from the home group member to the General Service Conference and back to the home groups.

□ Introduction to Concepts 1 - 5 - A panel discussion was presented by past delegates Scott C, Panel 49, Keith H, Panel 55, Elizabeth M, Panel 59 and Dick M, Panel 39. This request came out of the Inventory Assembly.

- o Concept 1 - Final responsibility and ultimate authority for AA world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.
- o Concept 2 - In 1955, groups delegated to the conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference...the actual voice and effective conscience for our whole Society.
- o Concept 3 - Right of Decision
- o Concept 4 - Right of Participation
- o Concept 5 - Right of Appeal

□ Workshop on "Safety in AA, Our common Welfare"

- o The same topic will be discussed in workshops at the GSC.
- o Feedback from each discussion group was shared with all.

□ Website Review - Our webmaster presented an overview on the website to familiarize everyone with its content. A request for a review came out of the Inventory Assembly.

Website Review - Webmaster

Ask it basket, and What's on your mind?

Q/A what is status of Hawaiian airline affiliate status ? haven't used any mileage, don't have a lot. Should be accumulation.

Q/A What is the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition money for, is it For group to spend 7<sup>th</sup> tradition on parties and social gathering. ? to pay for group expenses and services provided by various services. My opinion on parties would be no, but each group is autonomous. If they think that is the best use to reach the still suffering, that is their choice.

Q/A Finance- Is there a separate reserve from monies from past panels, or total cash also from past panel? Total is cash on hand, and a separate %K prudent reserve.

Q/A panels talked about more finance, other talk about creating something new. If we aren't financially set, why are we creating more work? I'm not sure there is a full understanding of the targets. We're not really asking for more money in any of these motions. We may be asking for redistribution for some of expenses. GSO has a 12-13 Million budget. Yet, they also have about that much in expenses. These agenda items are not originated at GSO, they come from members from the fellowship all over the country. When we think about each are bearing more of the burden or allowing individuals to contribute more, that is not asking for money. It's getting information about there for the question I just answered. The contributions are for our services. Feel free to call me and I'm happy to talk to you or your home group more if I can.

Q/A Members of AA do activities such as volleyball, dance, or other activity which generate income, would AA be able to accept it as a contribution? AA is not a volleyball dance or activity. If it had a meetings, and AA's of some sort, this question, I gotta say No.

Any kind of event that is help by Alcoholics for alcoholics, the only funds that can be redistributed back is money collected for registration only, if only for AA's only. Can contribute if it's for a cup or a meal. See guidelines for conferences and conventions.

4:00 PM Motion to adjourn by Ron, seconded by Jack. Adjourn with Declaration of Unity