

Hawaii Area 17 Budget Assembly  
September 24 - 25, 2011

Saturday September 24, 2011  
Hosted by Windward District 4

Breakfast and Registration  
Host DCM announcements

Call to Order at 9:17 AM, Serenity Prayer, Reading, Patty - Warranty Two, Unity, A.A. Birthdays, new GSRs, past delegates attending. Clifford S. New GV chair nominated and accepted.

Area Officers Reports -

Recording Secretary, Coleen A. - Please review the minutes, and let me know if corrections are needed. Motion to approve by Tommy and seconded by Mathea. Passed.

Treasurer, Sheri B. - Motion to approve by Mathea and seconded by Bill. Passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT  
HAWAII AREA 17  
September 15, 2011

Aloha Panel 61 trusted servants,

As of September 15, 2011 Hawaii Area funds are as follows:

Operating Funds	\$ 10,887.99
Prudent Reserve	\$ 5,000.00
Reserve for Computer Equipment	\$ 1,000.00
Reserve for International Convention	\$ <u>350.00</u>
Total cash in bank	\$ 17,237.99

As of September 15, 2011:

Total Contributions and Income	\$ 19,087.02
Total Expenditures	\$ 23,620.68
Net Revenues	-\$ 4,533.66

As you can see from the report, Area 17 did receive the memorial contribution we had discussed at prior assemblies. Although this contribution is certainly appreciated and can be utilized, it appears the groups of Hawaii Area have also been generous with their splits. Whether it is a check for \$4.68 or \$461.00, each time monies are received, the spirituality of the 7<sup>th</sup> tradition is reinforced and it is a beautiful process. On the handout table, there are area contribution envelopes for all to take back to their home groups. Please feel free to take these and more will be available tomorrow.

The Finance Committee has been busy presenting the budget at district meetings throughout the islands and will be meeting at lunch both days this weekend. We have much to discuss and will be looking at the Priority of Spending and ways to decrease our expenditures and increase 7<sup>th</sup> tradition contributions. Please feel free to approach any member of the Finance Committee with any questions, suggestions or concerns.

Daily Reflections—July 30<sup>th</sup>

*...he has struck something better than gold...*

*He may not see at once that he has barely scratched a limitless lode which will pay dividends only if he mines it for the rest of his life and insists on giving away the entire product.*

*ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS p.129*

My part of the Seventh Tradition means so much more than just giving money to pay for the coffee. It means being accepted for myself by belonging to a group. For the first time I can be responsible, because I have a choice. I can learn the principles of working out problems in my daily life by getting involved in the "business" of A.A. By being self-supporting, I can give back to A.A. what A.A. gave to me! Giving back to A.A. not only ensures my own sobriety, but allows me to buy insurance that A.A. will be here for my grandchildren.

In love and service, Sheri B, Area Treasurer, Panel 61

Registrar, Adinah M. - Information on every group Jan- today has been inputted to FNV. When sign in, if your info is in red, see me, as your group information has not been updated. Each group gets one vote. Get a voting slip, if you don't have one. Please return them at the end of the day. I gave packets to each DCM and each standing committee chair. Let me know if you have questions.

Alternate Delegate, Ken K.- I am part of the convention steering committee. I also had opportunity to share my experience, strength, and hope at Pearl Harbor with a group of military service people on base, (through communication link of Oahu Central Office).

Alternate Chair, Bob H. -Aloha and thank you for letting me serve as your Area 17 Alternate Chair. Our main business at this assembly is to discuss and approve an appropriate budget for the coming year, 2012. To that end I will begin my report with events related to the budget process.

Budget Committee: As a member of the finance committee I attended three district meetings on Oahu to present the budget more fully than could be done at our May committee meeting and to answer questions from the GSRS and members in attendance. Those districts were Waikiki, Windward, and Diamond Head. I would like to thank each of the DCMS and GSRS for allowing me to attend your meeting and providing the opportunity for a thorough discussion of the issues involved.

I would ask everyone to remember that the purpose of the budget is to make sure we have a plan in place to spend income wisely in the service of our mission. We are in no way obligating ourselves to spend money we do not have in hand. The budget exists to serve our mission and not vice versa.

Annual Hawaii Convention: Another of my duties as Alternate Chair is to sit as a member of the Annual Hawaii Convention Steering Committee. This has been a challenging assignment because, besides the Alternate Delegate who also sits on the committee, the members are long time dedicated servants of the convention who know far more about operations that I could hope to in such a brief time. It has been gratifying to see their dedication to insuring that the convention carries the message of hope that is Alcoholics Anonymous.

Better relations with the Hawaii Area as a whole, that is, our entire island Fellowship, continues to be a major part of the work we are involved in at this time. One of our biggest projects continues to be working on how best to involve service from members across the islands up to and including neighbor island chairs.

I hope to see all of you at this year's Convention, the 50<sup>th</sup>, "The Wisdom to Know the Difference," November 17<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Hawaiian Village. Don't forget to register before October 17<sup>th</sup> for the discounted registration fee.

Oahu Intergroup: I attend the Oahu Intergroup meetings as part of my duties and I am happy to report that the current intergroup panel has been actively working to increase the sense of community on the island of Oahu. This includes not only planning events to bring together A.A's from across the island but also to include our good friends in the Al-Anon Family Groups.

I have just been selected to be part of an ad hoc committee of Oahu Intergroup members to review the Intergroup By-Laws especially as they relate to the duties of the Central Office Manager. I want to assure everyone that this is not a reflection on the performance of the current central office manager but rather an attempt to update and clarify these documents, removing any questions or irregularities that arise. Much as we in Area 17 are reviewing our own Structures and Guidelines, so too is the Oahu Intergroup.

Other Business: I was also honored and blessed to be able to assist in bringing a new A.A. meeting to the Next Step (H5) homeless shelter on the island of Oahu. Let's be clear about this, my work consisted mostly of making a few phone calls. One of the directors of the facility had called the Oahu Central Office and I took the call. My intention was to forward things to our treatment chair but due to scheduling conflicts it was easier for me to go forward at the time. A few phone calls later I'd found a willing party and I put them in touch with the shelter. My only other role as to attend the first two meetings and, as I expected, the meeting seems both needed and wanted. I am gratified to have played a small role in carrying the message.

Aloha. Yours in service, Bob H., Area 17 Panel 61 Alternate Chair

Chair, Cheryl N. - Aloha all and welcome back. Since our last committee meeting, I have been attending the Intergroup and District meetings in West Hawaii. I also had the pleasure of attending a workshop in Puna called "Pass It On." Most recently I had the honor of representing Area 17 at the "Additional Pacific Regional Forum" in Woodland Hills. Mahalo for sending me. Linda and I will give a full report tomorrow. Mahalo for allowing me to serve.

Delegate, Linda McD. -

First I want to extend my gratitude to each of the DCMs for their efforts in hosting the delegate Conference reports. I also thank everyone who was able to attend. You were all wonderful hosts and hostesses. Mahalo for your hospitality. For those of you who were unable to attend a report back, you can find my report on our Website.

You can also find more details on the Conference in the *Final Conference Report*. There is an abundance of information contained in the report, including full wording of all Conference Advisory Actions on pages 6-10, Additional Committee Considerations on pages 64-67, and full text of all presentations and reports on pages 14-63. I would like to draw your attention to page 6 under "Agenda" where the theme for the 2012 Conference is laid out: "Anonymity: Our Spiritual Responsibility in the Digital Age." The presentation/discussion topics will be:

- A. Carrying the A.A. Message
  - 1. Still Our Primary Purpose
  - 2. Social Web Sites
  - 3. Young People in A.A.
  - 4. Importance of Sponsorship
- B. Change - Essential to A.A.'s Growth
  - 1. Service: Our Third Legacy
  - 2. Spirit of Rotation
  - 3. Diversity - Let's Keep the Doors Open for any Who May Still Suffer from Alcoholism
  - 4. Archives - Where the Past Meets the Present
  - 5.

The workshop topic will be "Safety in A.A.: Our Common Welfare." We will also be discussing these topics at the 2012 Inform-the-Delegate Assembly in preparation for the Conference. You might want to refer to the presentation starting on page 23, "Practicing Our Traditions in a Digital Age" as it directly relates to the topics. Also described in the Report on pages 11-13 is the Conference Inventory Plan. There will be 44 questions spread out over a 3-year period starting in 2013 with Conference members being informed of the questions to be covered in the succeeding years so that everyone in the Fellowship will be well informed on the topics.

Before I leave the topic of inventory, I'd like to share some thoughts I heard at the Forum last month regarding group inventories. Many times groups have low turnout at its inventories because members either do not understand the purpose of taking inventory or they are turned off by the tedious-sounding nature of "inventory." Instead, groups could call the session Primary Purpose Day and make the event fun. Groups could benefit from looking at its strengths and long-comings as well as its liabilities and shortcomings. Establish group ideals and how the group can achieve those ideals. In addition, try to come up with solutions rather than pointing out problem after problem.

I brought a couple of handouts today that illustrate Fellowship Statistics and the cost of services per member and per group at the level of GSO. Of particular interest, is the gap between per member cost and per member contributions. The difference is covered by literature sales. Each of us likes to have a sense of ownership, and that extends to the Fellowship. So when we communicate the spiritual value of contributions, key points to be made could include the sense of belonging, participation, and responsibility. Contributions are a means to an end—that end being our one primary purpose. As we participate in our area budget process today, ask yourself if you are still thinking of money from a material perspective or can you see it from a spiritual perspective as something that enables us to carry out our services in reaching the still suffering alcoholic?

And while we are on the subject of the spiritual value of money, we have not talked about the Birthday Envelope in a while. I managed to bring a few envelopes from the Forum. They are really easy to use. Fill out the attached form and contribute one dollar for each year of sobriety you are celebrating. It's a great way to show gratitude for your sobriety.

Highlights from the General Service Board quarterly report:

- ❑ I also brought service material regarding "Services Provided by GSO/AAWS". An example of one of those services is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sub Saharan Africa Service Meeting held June 3-6 in Johannesburg, South Africa with 25 delegates in attendance. Our GSO and the Great Britain GSO share sponsorship of this event.
- ❑ In response to the loss of certain copyrights in recent years, a committee was formed for the purpose of inventorying the status of copyrights on major AAWS works so that hopefully we will not lose any more copyrights.

- ❑ In response to falling Grapevine print subscriptions, the magazine is now available online in digital format. In addition, some books published by Grapevine, Inc. will be available in 2012 in digital format. You will probably hear more about that from our Grapevine Chair. The Grapevine, Inc. has heard our concerns about its short falls in recent years, and they are taking steps (!) to reverse that trend. When you see the new AAWS catalog, you may notice that for the first time two pages are dedicated to Grapevine material.
- ❑ The Trustees Archives Committee requested that the archivist prepare an informational piece on basic archival principles and procedures to be shared with local archivists per the committee consideration from the 2011 General Service Conference.
- ❑ A subcommittee was appointed to undertake a line-by-line review of the script of the video "Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous."
- ❑ Planning for A.A.'s 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Atlanta, Georgia in July 2015 is under way. GSO is currently accepting topic suggestions and would like to hear from you. Send your ideas to: International Conventions Assignment, P O Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163. Please do not contact GSO regarding registration or accommodations. Registration forms will be sent to all A.A. groups on the GSO mailing list in September 2014. Yet another reason to make sure that your group information is up to date.
- ❑ New pamphlet: "A.A. for the Alcoholic with Special Needs" is now available.
- ❑ Revised pamphlets: "Understanding Anonymity" and "The A.A. Member - Medications and Other Drugs" are now available.
- ❑ Just arrived: Bridging the Gap forms. There is one for AA's on the outside to volunteer to be a temporary contact for someone who is about to transition out of a treatment setting, and there is one for folks in a treatment setting to have a temporary contact. Bridging the Gap is an important service for both people in treatment and for those soon to be released from treatment. I earnestly hope that we actively pursue this valuable program.
- ❑ The process continues in regard to revision of the pamphlet "AA and the Armed Services" and development of the new literature that focuses on spirituality that includes stories from atheists and agnostics who are sober in A.A. 201 stories have been submitted.
- ❑ The 2011 Membership Survey is under way. Four groups in our area were selected at random to participate in the survey: 12 Coconuts in the Waikiki District, Makakilo Hill Climbers in Waianae District, and Ho'oiki Ohana Group in East Hawaii District. The fourth group chosen is no longer meeting. I thank the groups that participated. Your service in providing the survey information is greatly appreciated. All information has been sent to GSO for compilation and will be available later in the year.
- ❑

Also from GSO, is a request for suggestion for the theme, presentation, and workshop topic for the 2013 General Service Conference. I brought several copies of the request and would really like your input. You can fill out the forms this weekend and hand them to me or you can email me your input at [delegate@area17aa.org](mailto:delegate@area17aa.org). Suggestions are due to GSO by December 16, so please have your input to me by December 1<sup>st</sup> so I can compile the information. The request from GSO is also available on our Website. Your participation is yet one more opportunity to be in service.

From Grapevine, Inc. (Website: [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org))

- ❑ AA Grapevine, Inc. has published two new books:
  - *Step by Step: Real AAs, Real Recovery* soft cover \$10.95
  - *Emotional Sobriety II: The Next Frontier*, soft cover \$9.95
- ❑ GrapeNet, the Grapevine forum is ready for comments and participation
- ❑ Grapevine Complete subscription combining magazine and online is here.
- ❑ Have something to say? Let your voice be heard on I-Say.
- ❑ Also share your answers to the questions on I-Poll
- ❑ Grapevine's online store now accepts PayPal.
- ❑ In order to help support the Grapevine, I encourage each home group to purchase a minimum of two annual subscriptions per an additional committee consideration at the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual General Service Conference. Another way to take advantage of the new online services is to buy the complete subscription - online for yourself and the print version for a sponsee.

E-Books from AAWS: The first e-Books, *Alcoholics Anonymous* and *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* will be available to iPhone and iPad users on November 15. The Android version will follow two weeks later. Not to worry, the rest of us will not be left out.

Corrections Correspondence Service: GSO is in need of male members not locked up to correspond with male members who are locked up to share their experience, strength, and hope. Please contact the Corrections Desk, GSO, P.O. Box 459, New York, NY 10163. You can also contact the Corrections Desk at [corrections@aa.org](mailto:corrections@aa.org).

Coming Events:

- ❑ The 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Hawaii Convention is going to be November 17-November 20 at Hilton Hawaiian Village. If you register between now on October 17, registration is \$65. After November 17, registration will be \$75. To register online, visit [www.annualhawaiiConvention.com](http://www.annualhawaiiConvention.com). This is a statewide event and is a wonderful celebration of sobriety.

- ❑ All the holiday alkathons are coming up so watch for news of the one you want to attend.
- ❑ 2012 PRAASA will be March 2-4 at the Hyatt Regency Bellevue, Washington and will be hosted by Area 72, Western Washington. I brought a few flyers. Online registration is up and running at [www.praasa.org](http://www.praasa.org).

Another assignment the Delegate has is to be a voting member of the Oahu Intergroup, which meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month (The Area Chair, or her representative, is also a voting member of Oahu IG.) Unfortunately there is no longer time on the IG agenda for an oral report, but I do take a written report, which the IG reps take. I am hoping that the cooperation between Oahu Intergroup and Area 17 will increase unity. By the way, each DCM on Oahu is also a voting member of IG. Your participation would be welcome.

And finally this from the Feb/March issue of Box 4-5-9: *The groups comprising A.A. today hold what co-founder Bill W. called "the ultimate responsibility and final authority for our world services."* The entire structure of A.A. starts with a single group; and how each group conducts its affairs has a ripple effect on A.A. everywhere. So when we communicate with our groups and inform them of pending business, such as proposals, and the business conducted by area, *it is essential that the members be given all the facts relevant to the subject at hand.* Please give the facts and nothing but the facts, as Joe Friday used to say. It is not part of your responsibility as a GSR to try to influence your group. Our code of love and tolerance requires us to respect our home group members to be able to reach a fully informed group decision based on principles before personalities.

Thank you for your support. Submitted with love and service, Linda McD., Delegate Area 17, Panel 61, [delegate@area17aa.org](mailto:delegate@area17aa.org)

Q/A:

Clarification re HI annual convention - registration after October 17<sup>th</sup> - the cost of registration increases.

New Pamphlets - The 201 stories submitted to just the spirituality pamphlet.

Break at 10:25 AM

2012 Proposed Budget - Treasurer, Sheri B.

Motion to accept Kathy and seconded by Tommy

Voting members - 75 registered.

Discussion:

Rochelle - suggest change between 2011 to 2012, can you put a percentage? (26%)

Kathy - page 1 of registration for assemblies, \$500 more? 4 assemblies next year.

- Airfare, does it include accommodations? No, it is airfare for 17 committee chairs and officers.

Dawn - literature under PI and CPC, in '08 there were big numbers, is the amount just for Oahu? In 2008 the PI went to Lanai or Molokai and took some literature, so it was more that year. This is a guideline, if there is a need for more literature, we adjust. Not all standing committee chairs use spend all their budgeted amount.

- Website committee - page 3 . The amount dropped from \$500 to \$100. We paid for 2 years at the beginning of the panel. The second year there are no additional costs.

Steve - RE increased travel expenses, Is anything being done to promote online meetings or electronic type meeting to reduce travel? We have talked about having a committee meeting done via the internet. Were going to do it this year. Opted not to because it would have cost additional funds to set it up, so instead we skipped one of the committee meetings to save costs.

Cheryl -Proposal put forward last panel by group on Kauai regarding holding a committee meeting via Skype. We discussed it at orientation assembly, it went back to that group and nothing has. Looking at it, someone who is very tech savvy, can look at it, come up with details how it would work. The collective "we" decides, the officers don't make the decisions.

Disparity between 2008 PI and current PI, purchased a number of books to put in libraries and other places, that is where a lot of that 2008 expense came from. Part of the budget includes travel for workshops. To save on travel, committee chairs incorporated workshop with committee meetings, to not spend additional on airfare.

Pam - Travel expenses, Pacific Forum for Delegate and Area Chair, Pacific additional regional forum? The forum is normally every other year. This year it was an additional forum.

Margaret - What is the storage of permanent archives line item? 2010 was the first year. Ted K. had had the archives in his home for years, at no cost to us. He was retiring and we voted to store the archives. Every month the cost for storage is paid \$400.72. Every month our contributions equal that. It is a large line item. It is up to the body to decide, but it does take a lot of our budget.

Voting members: 74

	1 <sup>st</sup> vote
Yes	67
No	7

Minority opinion:

Ed - district conscience was to vote no based on prudence, and expense from past income.

Bill- This did not seem prudent to approve the budget when expenses are higher and contribution are \$19,000. It is far out of whack, and needs to be adjusted.

None changed their vote, budget passed.

Proposal - Tongan Language Translation - District 11, Kihei DCM, Karen N. -

Kihei District 11 proposes that Hawaii Area request GSO to translate some AA literature into the Tongan language. We suggest that the portion from Chapter 5 that is read at meetings (How it Works) and the pamphlet "Is AA for You?".

This proposal came out of a situation where a member of AA from Tonga had gone to Happy Hour with a translator. We believe there is a need to carry the message to the Tongan community on Maui. The fact that there are several churches on Maui that conduct services in the Tongan language indicates that there is a population on Maui that speaks that language.

When this proposal was first presented at the last panel, research indicated that there wasn't any literature readily available.

Background information from Australia and New Zealand indicated that there might be very old pamphlets available and I have since received a pdf. file of "Is AA for You" which was produced by Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Conference, New Zealand in 1985 with permission of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. I contacted Tanya E. , who was Delegate when Hawaii Area asked GSO to translate some literature in to Marshalese, for some guidance in refining our proposal. This proposal is based on her suggestions.

Questions:

Mathea - how much will it cost to produce? Not talking about producing it here, it's asking GSO to do the translation. No cost to Area 17.

Atu- Here to support the proposal Majority of parents speak Tongan, and read Tongan but, although they may understand English they may not be able to read it. This is helpful to us.

- Confused about what I heard. You mentioned it translated into Tongan.

Procedural correction: Motion to accept by Donna, seconded Ray

Continue Discussion:

Linda - Have AA literature translation policy from AAWS, not sure we're following the procedure exactly. There was a communication with GSO. It is GSO's policy that we have their permission to do the translation. They will contribute some money, but we don't know the amount. According to their policy, translations are usually done locally. Historically, they will give assistance, advance money for the publication of a particular piece of translate literature. We need to get their permission as it is copy-righted. When we asked them to do the translation, it's most likely they will send it back to us. This was to tell you the procedure.

Bill - Think the motion needs to be defined and given some scope on how much it is expected to cost, and how many people it is going to serve? Is it just Maui or the island of Tonga?

Cynthia - We're only voting on getting permission to translate? Yes.

Karen - Explained - when the first proposal came out, it was revised. Contacted someone who had gone through the procedure. Contacted GSO, but in all likelihood the translation will be done locally. Use Maui as an example as an area in Hawaii that has people who speak Tongan. Sure there are others on other islands.

Patty - If there is already a pamphlet that has been translated and there is a PDF versions, can we possibly make print outs for out Tongan members? In AAWS things take a long time.

Aviva - Since clarified we're asking permission, I don't think it reads correctly. If it's already been translated maybe we already have permission.

Mathea - Why are we already not translating, and then asking GSO/ this group whether we have the support to approve?

Bill - I was sitting at a meeting when a Tongan member came with a translator. Talked with another member, we decided to get this thing going, so the next time another Tongan comes, we have something to give him. It was published by A.A. in Tonga - so we don't have permission to copy it. This is a translation of an ready existing document. We're trying to get a legal translation of the document. So we have something to hand a newcomer.

Quorum: 76 voting members

	1 <sup>st</sup> vote
Yes	74
No	1

Minority comment: none

No votes changed, motion passed.

Discussion- Proposal to end the formal association between AA Area 17 and Annual Hawaii State Convention- submitted by East Hawaii District 7 to Hawaii Area 17, East Hawaii DCM

Alfred, East Hawaii District 7 DCM - read the proposal -

Cheryl -We're open for discussion, questions, comments. We will not be voting on this we're gathering information for you to take back. We'll be voting at the next assembly.

Laurie-The convention isn't a private enterprise using the A.A. name. The hotel doesn't advertise the A.A. and doesn't blow our anonymity.

Bob- The 4<sup>th</sup> bullet point, unclear on. The Alternate chair and alternate delegate are voting members. We have the same authority as any other member on the panel.

Gerina - Sept 2010 too original proposal, discussed at my group, group denied the motion based on singleness of purpose. Read about singleness of purpose from the Big Book, in A.A. guidelines for conferences and conventions.

Cynthia - wondering, based on budget where our funds are being used other than airfare to alt del and alt chair to attend meetings. No funds used on this panel, both live on Oahu. Previous panel there was airfare associated with it. We pay for Steering Committee Chair to come to assemblies and committee meetings.

Bob - There has been some talk on the steering committee, the convention covering airfare.

Stephen - It seems it might be a good idea to have area 17 involved with the convention because the state convention is a separate convention, it's good to have some experience on hand, traditions, voice of Area 17, to follow traditions to the best of their ability. Non A.A. Events have enthusiasm but not much experience. Helps it to not be a free for all.

Bill - If the convention is not A.A. then we shouldn't be sending representative there. If it isn't A.A and they want us to provide info by having alt delegate attend, that's awesome. 7<sup>th</sup> tradition - need to look at how we're spending, when it does cost money to send to convention meetings.

-Didn't hear answer re budget, money besides airfare. Standing committee chair for the convention, we pay for travel for them to travel to committee meetings and assemblies. When Alternate Delegate or Chair is on neighbor island, we pay for their travel.

Bill - Says it's supported by outside contributions, what is that about? Any, over the years, when it was held at the convention center, grumbling from people that they didn't want it there. Hawaiian Village is great, more intimate and enjoyable. People that ran the convention did it pretty much ad hoc. There is very little that A.A. did to influence the conventions. Difficult to get those people to do it otherwise. Want explanation of where outside contributions come from. And do we have real sustaining influence in this convention?

Bob - The other members of the convention committee are past chairs of the convention. Alt chair and alt del. Committee chooses committee, location, pricing. Alt chair and alt del are not directly responsible for running the convention. The convention chair is responsible to the steering committee. This current convention chair is interested in furthering relation with the area and the convention. No money is given by Area 17 to the convention, it is a separate entity.

Barbara -Background regarding outside contribution, which is perceived as a violation of tradition 7, is if the convention committee was fully self supporting, it wouldn't require contributions from area to get there. If it was truly AA, we would be paying it through meetings. The comment that it is not an A.A. Enterprise, It's internationally recognized as an A.A. convention. Scope of authority, if these guys are elected to serve area, not the convention area does not have a majority voice in the conventions.

Lauren -The principle stick part is has a tradition that all meetings are free, to attend meetings at convention, there is a cost. All should be welcome.

Kathy- Convention is 50 years old. It had to be started by A.A.s They used the area for as long as it was convention and now they don't need us. Other Conventions have scholarships and free meetings. It's either A.A. or it is not. It cannot be part A.A.

Patti - Former convention chair (Kunene if off island)- Some information is out of context. Outside contributions - the convention supports itself through members of A.A. and Al anon. When we get together through the steering committee, we talked about the finances, how can the convention help with this? Maybe the convention should be paying for alt del and alt chair to attend the convention meetings. Also, maybe it would be a good idea for the steering committee chair to be paid by convention to attend assemblies. Because the steering committee chair is part of the standing committee, they think area should pay for that because we are part of the body. When they talk about using the A.A. name. When you talk about a very large budget, to run a convention, it takes a lot of money. We do have a prudent reserve. We are looking at how to best serve the area. All of you are welcome to attend the meetings, and/or read the minutes online.

Lunch at 12:10 PM (Finance Committee Meeting)

### Standing Committee Work Sessions

#### DCMs, Intergroup, HICYPAA Reports (3 minutes)

#10 Waikiki, Leiland (for Alan) - Aloha Panel 61 and all in attendance. I'm an alcoholic, my name is Leiland. I'll be doing Alan, DCM 10's report. Waikiki District. Sorry for leaving early but I had to work? Be back tomorrow.

Waikiki district is doing good. District meeting have regular attendance of 8-10 people.

We had planned for a district event to happen in October but, we had to cancel. We are going to do event in early February - will announce in January.

During APEC, we could not get permits for beach meetings but meetings will still go on at same locations, unless told so different by security. If so, just look for us in the park.

Thanksgiving alcathon will still be at Unity Church.

Thank you Suzanne and Windward District for hosting us. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

#2 Honolulu, Linda for DCM who has stepped down - we're looking for both a DCM and alternate DCM. District is active. 8 active groups out of 20. 7 GSR's are here today. Pali Women's returned with a new GSR. Island Magic switched to the Honolulu District. Hawaawaa and Downtown Lunch have new locations. All groups have rising attendance. The Women of Black Experience are taking a meeting to ATS on Friday Evenings. Malia Discussion just had their roundup. Honolulu District is hosting a potluck picnic on October 15<sup>th</sup> at Ala Moana Beach Park, picnic area 27. Starts at 10. Meeting at noon. Lunch to follow. Volleyball tournament after lunch.

#3 Leeward, Diane - My name is Diane and I'm an alcoholic. I serve as the DCM for the Leeward District 3 on Oahu. I am pleased to report that we now have five active GSR's on our Committee, They are Cynthia G from Eatin Meetin, Robert C from Head Start, Richard R from Ka Hui Mo'olelo, Les M from Manic Mondays, and Tom B from Mustard Seed.

A second newsletter, the Leeward Letter, was published and distributed in May. It included an article entitled "How the AA Service Structure Brings the AA Message to the Still-suffering Alcoholic" plus a chart of all service units in Hawaii AA.

Our District, along with the Central North Shore District, hosted a Delegate Report Back on August 6<sup>th</sup>. There were around 25 attendees - and Linda did an excellent job presenting information to the group. A summary of her remarks was the subject of our third "Leeward Letter". Also included in that newsletter was a list of all the AA meetings in the Leeward District and information about the District committee.

We have a "Service Mixer" scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup>. It'll be a fun social event as well as an opportunity to focus on "service". The theme will be based on our Primary Purpose - talking about how being in service can help the still-suffering alcoholic. There will be games and prizes, as well as a panel on various service topics, and an open mic for folks to share their "service" stories.

We're also planning to host a District inventory potluck sometime in January of next year.

I am confident that our District will continue to grow and be a active participant in Hawaii Area 17. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve.

# 17 Waianae, Pam filling in for DCM and alt - Hi, my name is Pam, and I am an alcoholic. I am filling in today for our DCM who was unable to attend. I would like to draw attention to Alkathons, which will be held in our district for Christmas and New Years, which are fast approaching. These events bring our district together, and introduce us to many people who travel in to participate. We hope to see you there. More announcements will be forthcoming. Thank you.

#1 Diamond Head Steve GSR in for Kevin- Please welcome two new GSRs for DHD #1: Joe K/ for Makahiki Lanai and Andrea A. for Aina Haina Women's. The Christmas and New Year's Alkathons cannot be held at Unity church this year, because these dates fall on Sunday when church services are being held. Rochelle A. has graciously volunteered to be in charge of the Christmas Alkathon, and she is currently thinking of holding the Alkathon at Jefferson Elementary or Kapiolani Park. Please give Rochelle A. any other location that you may have in mind. If you can get us into Waialae Country Club, Rochelle said she would take it ☺. Barbara G., who was in charge of the Christmas Alkathon last year, has volunteered to be in charge of the Inform the Delegate Assembly next April 2012. It will be held at Holy Nativity in Aina Haina. Peace, Kevin, Alcoholic.

#9 Oahu North Shore, Eric - District 9 continues to meet each month. Some of our District officer positions remain vacant. We joined Leeward District in holding a delegate report-back. Over the summer we hosted a unity celebration on the North Shore. Next year we our district plans to host the February Committee meeting. As always, I am grateful to the GSR's in District 9 for their hard work, commitment, and participation. Yours in Service, Eric L. DCM District 9, Central and North Shore Oahu

#12 Puna, Ken - Aloha from District 12, Puna! My name is Ken, and I am an alcoholic.

- On August 14th, we hosted a service workshop. Over 30 members attended to hear presentations from Chris, Public Information, Lena, Corrections, and Rochelle, Cooperation with the Elder Community committee chairs.  
I feel that we planted the preverbal "Mustard Seed", and generated interest in the different ways to become of service. Thanks to all who made this event a huge success!
- Our District is going through some growing, or should I say reducing, pains. Our Secretary and our Treasurer are moving off island. The Treasurers position has been filled by "Ho'Ohana" GSR Lei, but we are still in active recruitment for a Secretary. We have picked up two new GSR's, and average around 10 members attending our meetings. Only two were able to attend today's Assembly. Welcome to Margaret from "Back Porch Step Sisters", and Cynthia from the "Promises Group".  
I have started sending emails to all groups that I have a contact person for, with meeting agendas and past minutes. I am finding that our 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions are increasing as a result. Thanks for the opportunity to be of service! Ken C. (d12,a17)

#11 Kihei, Karen - Thank you to Windward District for hosting this assembly.

Kihei District along with No Ka `Oi and Tri Island District had the pleasure of hosting Linda's first Delegate Report Back from the General Service Conference. Although we would have liked to have had better attendance, those of us who attended truly appreciated the time and effort that Linda puts in as our Hawaii Area Delegate and really enjoyed her presentation.



In August, Kihei District presented a workshop titled "How General Service Saves Lives". We tried to make it personal by having members share their own stories about the role that General Service has played in getting sober- learning about AA in prison, reading about AA in a pamphlet or newspaper article or going through a DUI class. We also had members with General Service experience share how participating in General Service has kept them sober and enhanced their sobriety. We combined the workshop with a chili cook off and salad contest. Again, we would have liked to have had more attendance, however I was extremely pleased when an off island visitor who was attending told me how much she had learned and would be taking information back home with her. One never knows who will get the message when we share.

We have simplified the Tongan Translation Proposal and will/have presented (ed) the revised proposal at this assembly.

In the next couple of months, we will be looking at our District Budget for the next year. One of our goals is to get people excited about General Service.

Thank you for letting me be of service. Karen N., DCM Kihei District 11

#8 West Hawaii, Tommy - Thank you Windward district 4 for hosting our area 17 budget assembly.

On founders day at the Hapuna state beach park our area delegate visited us and gave her report back from the GSC. Our area chair and alternate chair was also there, I would like to thank Linda for visiting us at district 8.

I would like to also thank Ken DCM puna district for attending 1 of our District 8 district meetings to propose our 2012 area budget and really helping our GSR's to inform there home groups.

District 8 is doing good and is hard at work bringing our district closer in touch with our homegroups. We had 2 caravans 1 to Monday Night Miracles in Honakaa, and to Happy joyous and free in ocean view.

Our sub committees are doing the best they can, we have decided to join corrections, bridging the gap, and treatment.

Today we have ten GSR's in attendance at our budget assembly and I want thank them for there love and service. I have attended about 1/3 of our groups business meetings and plan on trying to attend all homegroups before this panel ends. With love and service, Tommy G. DCM District 8

#7 East Hawaii, Alfred - Aloha everyone. Nice to see all of you again. I like to thank Windward District for hosting this event. It's nice to be here. Besides us getting ready for the Inventory Assembly coming in January, our current work has been focused toward our corrections and PI. I thank them both for an outstanding job this past year. Today I have to present to you our Local PSA produced by Anonymous members and our P.I. chair, and with the help of a well known FM radio station on the Big Island known as KWSS. Right now they currently air at nighttime (when most of the Alcoholics are listening and might think of needing help). Also we are looking into maybe taking it into high schools and college, as well as providing it for West Hawaii District 8. Also, our proposal has been made formal and is ready to be presented and distributed throughout the other districts. I thank you all for your help and patience. Thank you.

#13 Tri Island, Matt - Scheduled a crossing for October 28,29,30. Attendance down. DCM PRAASA attendance.

#4 Windward, Susanne - The Windward District has been busy for the past several months, preparing for this assembly. It's been an experience, one that has fostered personal growth and a reliance of Faith. We are 3 articles away from completing The Windward District Guidelines. We are beginning to plan and organize the Christmas and New Years Alcothons. We have also discussed the possibility of holding a District Inventory before the end of the year. The attendance at District meetings is strong, and 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions have grown over the past few months. Jeannie is taking meetings to Woman's Prisons on Fridays/looking for speakers. Bon Fire 7:00 TYG Saturday night Kailua Beach Park. That's it for now. Thank you for my service position. Aloha, Susanne, Z. DCM.

#5 No Ka `Oi, Ed - Our district is hanging in there. We have had up to 9 participating groups and 4 committee chairs. There are only 4 GSR's here today. Still the only panel member and am proud to represent my district. Our oldest group on Maui, Wailuku Group's 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary is November 6<sup>th</sup> at Kanaha Beach Park. We were honored to host the Delegate Report Back and to have a topic of discussion for the past several months.

#6 Kauai, Moise - I, DCM 6, my name is Moises L. and grateful to be in service.

- ❖ GSR REPORT;
- ❖ HUI OHANA GSR, (DIANA L), 4<sup>th</sup> of July (Robin Chairperson)
- ❖ 12 & 12 GSR, (HENRY M.), has change mtg name to Guidelines Group? And no longer available.
- ❖ Koloa Aloha , (Mathea) Donate to mens retreat Held in Oct. 28-29 2011 @ Kahili Mountain Park, (Chris K. Chairperson),
- ❖ Sobriety in Paradise (GSR Dave J.), meets @ Koloa Library on Saturdays
- ❖ Steps to Freedom, the last Monday of each month is Birthday night (potluck 6:30 pm)
- ❖ Reports of new meetings popping up on the east side, It's Not Them @ 530Experience, Strength, and Hope on Thursdays @ 6:30 pm Kamalani Bridge Lydgate Gazebo
- ❖ Some Standing Committee positions are still open being announce @ meetings.
- ❖ West Side Story; AA Celebrate Labor Day @ Salt Pond With Meetings and Lots of Food. Potluck

**Announcements:**

Adinah, Registrar - New contact list - Clifford's number is wrong. Everything else should be accurate. Folders given to you - please give back to Adinah. Listed groups she needs to see.

2011 Pacific Region Additional Forum Reports, **Delegate, Linda McD.** -  
AUGUST 19-21, 2011 WOODLAND HILLS, CALIFORNIA

Last month I represented Hawaii Area at the 2011 Pacific "Additional" Regional Forum. I was among the 373 first time attendees. Total registration was 723, which means over 51% of registrants was attending a forum for the first time. Regional forums are intended to be weekend sharing and informational sessions to help the General Service Board, A.A. World Services, Inc., The Grapevine Corporate Board, the Grapevine Staff, and the General Service Staff stay in touch with A.A. members, trusted servants and newcomers to service at every level of the service structure. Forums provide unique opportunities to share and exchange valuable experience, ask questions and spark new ideas. No formal actions result. Regional forums carry A.A.'s message of love and service by improving communication at all levels of our Fellowship. and reflecting the wonder that is A.A.

The 2011 Forum was chaired by our Pacific Regional Trustee, Rod B. Opening remarks were made by Ward Ewing, our Chairman of the General Service Board. He informed us that the General Service Board, The General Service Office, and Grapevine were there to serve our groups now and to explore better ways of doing so in the future. He quoted Bill W.: "We cannot sit comfortably in our groups and hope that others will hear about us and come around. Next came Rod, who described the make up of the GSB and the rotations of each member. GSO Staff assignments were explained by Adrienne B., Staff member currently assigned to the CPC desk at GSO. Adrienne is a remarkable source of information and was called upon many times throughout the weekend to answer questions during sharing and ask-it-basket sessions. The forum consisted of 14 presentations by directors, the GSO Manager Phyllis H., and 9 of our Pacific Region Delegates. Saturday night there were 12 workshops, including "Carrying the Message to the Elder Community" that I moderated. In between presentations and workshops, over 100 people participated in a total of almost 4 hours of ask-it-basket/open sharing sessions.

Among the presentations was one made by Ami Brophy, A.A. Grapevine, Inc. Executive Editor Publisher, who reported on progress made by Grapevine, Inc. since the General Service Conference. The redesigned Website was rolled out, the magazine is now available in digital format and has more stories and features than the print version, and ebooks will be available next year. Ami appeals to the membership to submit stories and pictures of your home group site - no peeps of course. Phyllis H., GSO Manager, talked about "Where does the money go?" All of our money goes to fund A.A. services in the US and Canada and all around the world. No contribution is too small. Phyllis urged each of us to think of money in spiritual terms, making our services available everywhere to reach alcoholics who may be suffering in Iran, Mozambique, or in Aala Park. For detailed information on our finances, visit [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) and go to the "Finance" section. All of the presentations, etc will be available in the Final Forum Report soon to be published. You may access the report on the GSO Website.

Overall, I felt that the forum was a valuable experience. I learned a lot and have added to my knowledge of what A.A. does, which makes me be able to better serve you. I saw dozens of A.A.s in service, whether they were handing out programs, giving hugs, or making presentations. I loved the informality of the event and seeing all the participation from attendees during the question/answer periods and during the ask-it-basket/general sharing sessions. And being with the other Pacific Region Delegates was at once heart-warming and melancholy because about half of my new friends will be rotating on at the end of this year. In closing I quote Ward Ewing: "I firmly believe that together we can ensure that this Fellowship will not only stay together but will continue to be that beacon of hope for alcoholics yet to come." Mahalo for allowing me to attend this service event,, and I hope that each of you will one day have the forum experience.

Respectfully submitted. Linda McD., Delegate Area 17, Panel 61, [delegate@area17aa.org](mailto:delegate@area17aa.org)

**Chair, Cheryl N.- Pacific "Additional" Regional Forum**

August 19 - 21, 2011

Woodland Hills, California

First, I want to thank all of you in Area 17 for sending me to the Pacific Regional Forum last month. This was my very first forum and it was indeed a "magical" experience for me. As the flyer for the forum says, "Forums are designed to enhance communication and participation among AA members, the General Service Board and staff and directors from the General Service Office Staff and the AA Grapevine. Forums offer a meeting place to ask questions and spark new ideas to help carry the AA message of hope to the still-

suffering Alcoholic." There were a total of 8 people from the General Service Board, staff, directors, and AA Grapevine/LaVina including Rod B., our Pacific Regional Trustee. Rod attended our Orientation Assembly and PRAASA earlier this year and many of you had an opportunity to meet and visit with him then.

In addition to presentations by representatives and workshops from GSO, GV/LV, and Pacific Region Delegates, there were sharing sessions and two workshops on Saturday evening. I attended "Rotating Leadership" and "Area Inventory - How, When and What Happens After?" and found both to be informative and it sparked lots of ideas for Area 17.

Some thought provoking ideas and amazing facts that I learned are:

□ Grapevine/La Vina print issues will **continue**. They are here to stay!!

□ In 2011, GV/LV not only reduced their deficit with many cost cutting measures including reducing their staff by 30%, but at the same time they launched a new website which expanded digital options and continued a high level of quality.

□ The new digital grapevine is available at [aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org).

□ Some of the features that are available to everyone with/without a subscription:

o New stories daily

o Feedback and forms available on "I Say" - you can connect with other alcoholics all over the world and exchange ideas, experience, strength and hope.

o Section for GV/LV reps - support, GVR handbook, etc all available online.

o Grapevine Complete is a subscription for both digital and print versions of GV and includes current issues of both the print and digital versions, access to Audio Grapevine, Story Archive, and previously unpublished members' stories and costs \$49.97 per year.

□ How can I be a better leader and follower? - Lead by example and action, inform those we've served of our actions and let others lead when it is their responsibility.

□ Re being self supporting through voluntary contributions - let people know what services are being provided for their contributions.

o Big Book has been translated into 62 languages.

o There is literature available for Buddhists, Hindu, Muslims, agnostics and atheists.

o AA World Services is going online with eBooks for the Big Book and 12 Steps & 12 Traditions in English, French & Spanish. They will be launching applications for iPhone and iPad followed by droid products later this fall. Revenue from these sales will go to GSO.

□ Rotating leadership benefits the fellowship by increasing diversity, having high level of enthusiasm and willingness to learn, humility.

o „Spirit of Rotation" vs. „Spirit of Stagnation."

o „God doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies the called." But the service manual says the GSR is the most important job in AA and we choose the most qualified individual - not the person who happens to step out of the room when the vote is taken or the one who missed the home group business meeting.

□ Keys to successful group/District/Area inventories

o Stay positive. Try turning shortcomings into assets.

o Stay in the solution.

o No votes, no judgments.

o Try to get as many to participate as possible. Otherwise what you will have is a minority opinion.

o Keep a sense of humor.

o Practice love and tolerance.

o Look at your strengths and weaknesses. Summarize and review items that come up. Divide into urgent, less urgent and anytime and make a plan to address.

In closing, I once again experienced the magic of AA. I felt the unity, singleness of purpose and dedication from over 700 AAs who are working to insure that AA continues to be there for the still suffering alcoholic. I saw firsthand the commitment of the GSO directors & staff to spreading our message of hope and solutions for a new way of life. I heard that „Hope comes from hearing my story told by another alcoholic." I remembered the first time that happened for me and I knew I belonged. A glimmer of hope appeared where there had only been despair, loneliness and gloom. And I know that „I am responsible - when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there - and for that, I AM RESPONSIBLE.

Mahalo for allowing me to represent Area 17 at the forum.

HICYPAA, Jan - On host committee. Conference Oct 7,8,9,2011 Camp Waianae. Registration \$60. Conference for young people to get sober, for all ages - room to grow, wants to have fun. Meetings and events planned.

What's on your mind?

Linda McD. - Final conference reports are on the back table, please take one for yourself. DCMs take reports for your GSRs who are not here.

Margaret - GSR. Thank you for the opportunity to see old friends and meeting new friends. Looking forward to tomorrow.

Rochelle- What has GSO done to date on packets, pamphlets for Filipino, Samoans, Japanese? Anyone can order it from GSO. Literature translated in to Filipino language. Not sure about some languages.

Clifford - GV chair. Gave phone number.

Jim - Question about Kauai, did have request for Filipino How it Works. Found the woman who was translating, She started the process, but then she moved to Alaska. Convention - Suggested we have our elections assembly the same weekend as the convention.

Kacee, New GSR for Happy Hour Group, introduced herself.

Maggie - Chanting that happens after the prayers. Likes to end my prayers with Amen. Don't like Keep coming back, it works, it goes on and on. New York suggested we say our prayers and not have the chanting. Linda - Good question, brought up in general service. Problem is we cannot dictate to groups whether they can chant or not. It is a question of exclusiveness sometimes. When I first moved to Oahu and I heard all these responses to meeting names, I felt really left out. Some people think certain (Christian) Prayers shouldn't be said at the meetings. The Lord's prayer was never said at the conference. Yes it comes up for discussion and we need to be mindful of the newcomer and how they might react to our actions.

Cheryl - Never know when people are going to stop with the chant. I don't want to do anything to make someone feel that they are not a part of. Treatment centers, it's mandated they attend. Not sure what they (meetings) are going to day or do. But each group is autonomous. GSO reminded groups each group is autonomous, our experiences has shown that \_\_\_\_\_.

Ron -My experience, I don't care for the chanting, but it's been going on. Some groups chant others don't. If group is uncomfortable, they can put it in their format. ( i.e. not clapping after individual sharing) It's something to be brought up to the group, and see how it goes from there.

Wayne - When I first came to meeting I couldn't stomach the serenity chant, or keep coming back chant. I learned to play for other people, and not just for me.

Bill - Got to go to New York and tour the office. Went to a meeting in the GSO building. At the end of the meeting, nobody chanted. I don't do it. My sponsee pick up on it, and don't do it.

Alfred - Has fliers for Jan Assembly

Cathy - As a newcomer I got the message that if I keep coming back, it works. As I really believe my program, and that particular chat that I keep coming back, I felt a part of.

Chris -This is not so much on the lines of chanting, but along the lines of group conscience and how it affects A.A. is a whole. Meeting did a guided meditation. It's not just chanting, but other things. If a newcomer comes in, they hear that. Brought it up to the group, and they decided to keep the chanting and guided meditation. It was a group conscience. Affecting A.A. as a whole really does affect A.A. as a whole.

Bill - chanting, I love the fact that each group is autonomous. They get to do what they want, even if it's wrong. That's the beauty of A.A. You get to try and fail, and it's no big deal. Went to a group that changed the serenity prayer every morning.

Leiland -People in my group. They can do what they want. Need respect.

Linda - My home group, we don't have a regularly scheduled group conscience meeting. I'm going to suggest it. If it lasts longer than 10 minutes, everyone gets into a tizzy with me. What was suggested of me is to ask the group if we could have a regularly scheduled group meeting, they said no. How do I get the info to them. Announcement time, I stand up and show them the binder I comprised, show them the binder, and leave it on the literature table during the meeting, and tell them to come see me if they have any questions. Also, at one of the group conscience meeting, someone brought up a motion to stop saying the Lord's prayer, we took a vote and it passed. The minority expressed their opinion, we took another vote to see if anyone in the majority changed their mind, and the Lord's prayer is still being said. It bothers me when a person disrespectful to the group conscience ways.

Linda - I love these assemblies, love being in general service. You people enrich my life. Love and support you've shown me is beyond belief for me. Each and every one of you has enriched my life today. My mother passed away last night, and there is nowhere else I'd rather be today than here.

Announcements - thank you, I'm missing two voting cards. We need them back. Only certain persons are allowed to vote. I need to account for every one of them. Standing committees please give me back your folders.

Host DCM announcements - Dinner will be served. Need to close and be out of her by 5:30 PM. Thank you to volunteers who put this assembly together. Invite you to a 7:00 PM bonfire beach meeting at Kailua Beach Park this evening. Thank you.

Motion to adjourn by Tommy, seconded by Mathea.

Adjourned with Declaration of Unity at 3:40 PM.

Agenda subject to change due to time management.

Dinner served by Windward District

Hawaii Area 17 Budget Assembly  
Sunday September 25, 2011  
Hosted by Windward District

Breakfast and Registration

Call to Order at 9:06

Serenity Prayer

Reading A.M. - Leadership in A.A. Ever a Vital Need. (S51 A.A. Service Manual)

Announcements

Chair, Cheryl N. - Frequent Flyer Miles program - not an add, not affiliation, Information for you if you Fly Hawaiian, Preferred Affiliate Program Code. You get your Hawaiian Miles and a like amount will be put in an account for the area - to defray area costs. This is not to say you cannot fly other airlines.

https: apps.hawaiianair.com/affiliate and enter the Preferred Affiliate Program Code: HAWAIIAREA

You will receive a 5% discount for travel between Hawaii - Mainland.

Roundtables - GSR, DCM, Standing Committee & Officers

Summary of roundtable discussions:

GSR group #1, Lauren - Budget Assembly: Roundtable 1 Notes from 9/25/11, Facilitated by Elizabeth

Topic #1: How to spark discussion in home groups; attract, retain, enthuse

-make it brief, bullets of points, have information available to take with them so they can vote informed at next meeting

-at announcements at end of meeting, have copies of info available and report that they will be voted on next meeting

-changed name of business meetings to Group Conscious meeting

-business meeting not separate from speaker/discussion meeting - use the last 15 minutes

- bring something controversial to the table to spark more people to come

-focus only on things that are going to be voted on

-follow a structured format

Topic #2: Pros/Cons of having GSR also serve as Chairperson of group

-have to delineate roles of GSR at home group to avoid people bringing every complaint about home group to GSR if they are not chairperson

-larger responsibility if it is a dual position

-positives may be that GSRs are familiar with the format from coming to assemblies and are better able to structure discussion; also it's a 2 year position so there is a sense of stability and experience that comes with the position

-if GSR is separate from Chairperson, the Intergroup Rep has just as much clout as the GSR

-remember that all groups are autonomous

Topic #3: how to get more GSRs at district meetings

-bring a buddy to district meetings - ask for a ride

-make direct connections that the group can see between events/actions being done and district's involvement with them so groups can see their money going to work

-go to other groups' business meetings to encourage contributions and GSRs

-attraction vs promotion - sell enthusiasm of going to assembly and being involved in this level of service; lead by example, inspire people, promote attraction

-some groups have gone to other groups to do small presentation on how to split money and role of GSR

Topic #4: how to handle questionable Treasurer behavior

-pass the basket 2x - 1 for 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition, 1 for GSR travel

-dwindling contributions 2\* economy has been an issue

-set a certain amount monthly/weekly that is going to be set aside for GSR travel

-ensure the prudent reserve first, and then make splits after that

-take daily accounting of 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition to the group - daily accountability

-reminder of spirituality of the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition

-being direct is best - if they get defensive, they are likely guilty; call them to the carpet in front of the group

DCM group, Ken - How to throw a successful assembly Need good chair, personal interaction is important, 1:1 and say I need help instead of announcing in meeting. Encourage people to register early. Keep volunteers in the loop. Reserve venue far, far in advance. Get a person to be a volunteer coordinator, homestay. DCMs GSRs need to be present at the assembly, not pressed into service. Email re homestay - send quick reply saying you'll get in touch, but you received their email. Make sure chairs know what is involved (homestay, transportation, names and drivers. Area website - mail, what is good/bad about each. Too much spam, discussed filters, attachments that cannot be open. Can be open usually via gmail account. Communicate via email with non participating groups. Send emails and updates so they know they're. Service workshops, assign jobs, serve food. DCMs attending intergroup meetings - knowledgeable of concepts and traditions.

Intergroup, Mathea - Kauai Intergroup has had a change of Chairpersons. Lu A, former Chairperson has moved to New York. Our Alternate Chair, Bob B, stepped into the Chair position. In our September meeting we elected Kathryn B as the new Alternate Chair. She serves the remainder of Panel 61. Our treasury balance, resting below 500 dollars for some time, is not at \$1,6459. Our island newsletter, The Garden Island Sobriety, comes out each month. It can be subscribed to via the email:district6newsletter@hotmail.com. In its contents are all our social events, new meetings, chip meetings, meetings that serve food, a lost of the month's AA birthdays and the treasury report for both District and Intergroup. Thanks to Linda B for being creator, editor and publisher. Our 24/7 hotline is going well. We have no physical Intergroup office and do not need one at this time. Literature supplies are in a rental shed and handled well by Mark M. Twelve people attended our September meeting. Each Intergroup meeting lasts one hour. Respectfully submitted by Mathea A., traveling Intergroup Chair

Intergroup Round Table Report, Mathea - There are 5 Intergroups in Area 17. This weekend is an Intergroup Camp Out. At this Area assembly is one representative from an Intergroup and that is me, From Kauai. However, I and other Intergroup chairs appreciate our vote in the Area and ask that it be continued as it is amazingly fruitful.

Standing Committees, Jim - Participation at convention. Would like booths at convention, agreed to somehow put that together. Mynah Bird will have sign asking for stories and articles. Groups can come prepared with article for Mynah Bird.

The CPC relative to committee work - Need to do letter writing campaign. Put together a letter suggesting that professional working with those with drinking problems call the Intergroups (provide the phone number). We'll try to put this together as quickly as possible. Anyone in your group who would like to have person on that list. Give The [cpc@area17aa.org](mailto:cpc@area17aa.org).

The next gathering will be the inventory assembly. The SCC believe that our standing committees, the work we do is the gauge for our success in carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Q/A standing committees - have you discussed having contacts for each of your committees on each of the major islands, and if so how are you going to take actions? Question for Adinah than for us. Every island was represented on each committee at first assembly. When we drew the names for GSRs for various committees, only responsible for work here at assemblies. If districts want to do district level committee, that is their prerogative, but we're not telling you what to do, or requiring that GSR's be contact person for the islands. When new GSRs came in, at orientation assembly, depending on who is here, each person drew from a hat what standing committee they went to. Adinah still does this when GSRs attend assemblies. Not necessarily by island. DCMs from district go out and recruit people to do that work, not necessarily a GSR. The list Adinah made are not necessarily GSRs doing work on each island. To all of our standing committees have corresponding committee at GSO.

It would be helpful if DCMS have a list of standing committee chairs on the islands, and let area officers know who they are. So that when requests come in, we have volunteers established.

GSR group #2, with Scott C. -

1. Getting members in service - Delegate to others and communicate back so they are helping you. Sobriety requirements give opportunity. Attractions rather than promotion, sponsors in service, make announcements - what we need regarding service. Stop the services i.e. coffee service. Work on building unity - greeters, people who feel like a member are more likely to get In service.
2. Spirit of rotation - serve, and also let go of the position, burn out but keep doing the service position, look at sponsees and their talents. Fear - pray. Make group aware it's part of traditions to rotate. Communicate kindly to people asking them to step down, they can help get someone else in the position. Sponsor workshop on different service builds a foundation for service. People know what they're getting into. Open discussion meeting, make spirit of rotation a topic. Make it personal, communicate on a personal level.
3. Shrinking attendance - Food, donuts, potluck before meetings, birthday cakes, ask for support, involved in district H&I rehabs, welcome newcomer, caravans, speakers from other areas, make announcement of service opportunities.
4. 7<sup>th</sup> tradition - \$1 for self and \$1 for person who cannot give, pass the basket twice, article \$5 on top, announce, communicate honestly with group, sponsors, this is your home group how much are you willing to give to the people saving your life? tax deductible.
5. Role of GSR.

Officers, Coleen - We discussed 1. Possible inventory question 2. Whether to bring a Local Forum to Hawaii, 3. The Convention is reviewing their guidelines, 4. Officers meeting monthly via electronically. And 5. Using our communication system more consistently and effectively. (read and respond to emails in a timely manner).

Standing Committee Reports:

Website chair, Hugh (read by Bob) - Aloha Everyone,

Regretfully I am unable to be there this weekend for the assembly. I am off island for a work related project.

Over the past few months I have been working on keeping the website content and software up to date. I have also taken measures to reduce the amount of spam in area email accounts with some success. If you are still receiving an excessive amount of e-mail in your area account please let me know.

I have also been working on an electronic version of the group change form, but I have some minor technical issues to resolve before it is ready for primetime. My apologies to Adinah. I had promised to have this ready prior to the assembly, but will be unable to finish until I am back on island next week.

The requests I have received to implement videoconferencing as a means of reducing travel costs will have to remain on hold until we can address the issues around anonymity in a manner that is acceptable to everyone.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Hugh C

Web Committee Chair

GV, Clifford - My name is Clifford and I'm an alcoholic. I would again like to thank the Assembly for confirming me as the Area Grapevine Chair. I don't have a written report today but I will be prepared at our next Assembly in January.

A little about myself. I served as the DCM for No Ka `Oi District 5 on Panel 59 and before that as the Alternate DCM and as a GSR for my home group. I have worked with all of the officers and a few of you here.

I am so blessed to be able to serve Hawaii Area 17 again. Real life changes last year made me unable to serve and real life changes this year allows me to serve. I am blessed. In love and service, Clifford S.

Convention, Patti (for Kunane) - 50<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention.

Q/A Will there be service workshops? Yes

Will SCC have room to set up displays if they choose to participate? Yes, contact earni, facilities chair, if you need one.

PI, Chris - Public Information Report

I created a Tri Fold for events that are happening over here and also for the Hawaii State Convention as I will be participating by setting up a table for Public Information.

Ken our Alternate Delegate contacted the counselor in charge of the alcohol abuse center at Pearl Harbor and spoke to those serving the military and staff members on August 5<sup>th</sup>.

On August 14<sup>th</sup> the Puna District held a Service Workshop where Public Information, along with Corrections and Cooperation with the Elder Community. I presented an informal report about the importance of Public Information in the community and handed out information taken from the PI workbook on how to inform the public that we are out there.

On August 16<sup>th</sup> AA was invited to participate in the Inner Faith Ministries informational Conference at Sangha Hall in Hilo. I attended this function and had a table set up with the Tri-fold and answered questions about AA and gave out, on request, over thirty schedules and the sheet entitled: Information on Alcoholics Anonymous to the public attending that conference as well as to service agencies with the community.

Also the PI chair for East Hawaii has, with members from the local AA community bringing the island's voice of AA, produced a PSA for young people. The PI chair got the script from GSO and has been released on our local radio station: KWXX in Hilo.

On September 14 a Health Fair was held at Honolulu Community College and a Paul W, covered that making pamphlets and meeting schedules available and also speaking to the students who got credit for talking to him. Paul shared that most of them wanted to talk about their parents being alcoholics.

West Hawaii has adopted the Resorts and have handed out meeting schedules to Hapuna, Mauna Kea, Mauna Lani and other resorts in the Waikalua and Kawaihae area. They will be working on getting meeting schedules out to other resorts on the South side of the island.

Last but not least, The PI chair in the Keihi District trying to get business cards available to the community. Maui County Fair did not pan out as it and it was too expensive by any single district to fund. In Love and Service, Chris

CPC, Susan - discussed ways to report to professionals that need our services. Brochures, etc. CPC is looking forward to working with hospitals and PI, we overlap in many areas, together we can cover more area. Asked to comprise a list of speakers from all islands, and I need your help. Looking for people who like to speak to military, professionals, young people, schools, and elders. Contact her at [cpc@area17aa.org](mailto:cpc@area17aa.org)

#### Hospitals, Jim -

1. The first point is made more eloquently in page 5 of Mynah Bird: Hugh and I are planning on working together for the remainder of the panel and may have a proposal by the end of the panel to permanently combine this work. This I believe is consistent with GSO's changes to the words "treatment settings."

2. Hospital work is being done throughout the islands. While my page 5 article is mostly shining about how little I'd done, the day after I sent it to Kathy I received two phone calls from Oahu. In addition, yesterday's standing committee again confirmed the continued efforts to carry the message in and into treatment settings, including Bridging the Gap work.

3. The other thing that was evident in yesterday's committee meeting was the need to work closely with CPC. Changes in liability laws and insurance rules continue to impact what happens to alcoholics in treatment settings and so we too must keep abreast and continue to impress our availability on the professionals who govern our brethren's conditions.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

#### CEC, Rochelle - The following has occurred since our Committee Meeting on February 19, 2011

Emailed copy of Hawaii Area 17's CEC workbook to Seniors in Sobriety website.

Presented C.E.C. material at Puna District's Workshop on 8.14.11

Attended West Hawaii's meeting for seniors on 8.19.11 and introduced self to Stan B. and his daughter.

Professional in Kailua-Kona refers clients interested in A.A. to Maggie K., a member of the C.E.C. committee.

Unsuccessfully attempted to participate in Senior's Health Fair in Hilo. Will try next year.

Personal awareness and assistance to seniors needs especially at home group level enhanced as a result of being on the C.E.C. committee  
Moise L., member on C.E.C. Committee, attended recent Women's Health Fair on Kauai. Committee to assemble a C.E.C. kit composed of workbook and related A.A. pamphlets to send to an interested professional in attendance

New C.E.C. committee members Philip from Kaaakaa attends another senior's meeting at the Ponds at Punaluu which meets every Tuesday night at 7:30. While it is open to A.A. members, it chooses to remain off the schedule and anonymous being in a private community.

Goals: Make C.E.C. kits available

Send introductory letters to places that house seniors to educate its staff and families of senior on alcoholism.



Mahalo for the opportunity to be in service. Rochelle A.

Mynah Bird, Kathy - struggling to print the perfect MB. Learning publishing, working at getting articles. Thanked those who submitted articles. Chair has requested I do a holiday issue. Won't be for print (online only) Nov 15<sup>th</sup> is due date, requests officers submit reports.

Archives, Cheryl (For Heidi) - Aloha Everyone,

Thank you Windward District for hosting this weekend's assembly. I'm sorry I will not be joining you folks this weekend.

I am really sad to have to say I have resigned my position(s) as the Archives Chair and Archivist for the Area. I thought and prayed on my decision over the summer and spoken both with my sponsor and service sponsor before calling Cheryl. As many of you know I have had a lot of personal and family challenges this year and my health is not the best, so I am choosing to step down in order to focus more on my family and those issues. I have mixed emotions about leaving as I loved my service in Hawaii Area and the wonderful people I have met and been blessed to serve with.

I also thought with the tight budget and discussion of the future of the Hawaii Area Archives, it might be more comfortable for the group if I was not there during that process. My name is still on the contract for the storage facility and I am still more that willing to go down and meet the person(s) who will be taking over in order to facilitate a smooth transition.

Right now the archives are housed in the storage and although much work has been done sorting and organizing, there still is a monumental task ahead in order to go through the documents in storage as the majority of them are unsorted.

I will be going down in the next week to remove my personal items from the storage and after this weekend, will disable the Area email on my computer so that the new person(s) may take that over. If you need to reach me, my personal information is still on the Area Contact sheet.

Thank you so much for allowing me to serve the Area these past six years, I will miss you all. A hui hou.

In love and Service,  
Heidi G.

Cheryl -RE budget is the large amount we're paying for archives storage. Ted used to store it for us, he retired from the job. We took responsibility for the archives and to pay for the storage. Would like to establish an ad hoc committee to come up with a plan for archives. Interested in hearing from groups. Linda is willing to chair the committee. Looking for volunteers to do that. May involve going to the facility, going through the archives. A small amount is organized, there are many boxes that have papers in them. Would like people to be from Oahu. Contact Linda McD. If you are interested. IF you are on another island and archives in your passion, let Linda know. We'll have report back at next assembly.

What's on your mind/ask it basket:

Steamer - suggestion to cut down travel cost is that DCM committee meetings be scheduled to be at each area assembly either before or after the assembly.

Linda - Flyers/registration forms on back table Gay Lesbian island style recovery event 19<sup>th</sup> annual aloha roundup, Feb 24-26, 2012. [www.aloharoundup.com](http://www.aloharoundup.com) if you want to register online.

Ed - ad hoc archives committee - what is it for? To eliminate the archives? Someone be elected in that position? Heard concern about \$450/ month expense for archives. We no longer have an archives chair and archivist. The intent was to go through the archives and get it organized. The plan was we'd digitize, and move to a smaller place. And was will of the body a couple years ago. The finance committee has gotten a lot of feedback to reduce that line item amount. Carry of what archives chair was doing, and come up with a plan Will committee go through the files and come back with plan to reduce cost, put in smaller location? Will somebody be put in archives position.? Look to body who might be interested in serving as archives chair. Combined archives chair with archivist because no one stepped forward to be archives chair. Mission of the ad hoc is partly to carry through with plan already in place, go through archives, pare them down, look for smaller space. Some of the work has been done, there is a lot more to do. Also looking for ideas from people. We're not going to get rid of archives without a lot of input from people. Share your thoughts and ideas, where you'd like to see us go, let Linda McD know.

Ideas on anything, use the contact list and contact us email, phone, etc.

Linda McD. - It would not be her intention to make any decisions regarding storage of archives or digitalization without approval of this body.

Ask it Basket - Could we please not have reports read verbatim? We have different ways of absorbing information. Online access - most but not all have access. We also have them available in printed form. Having a lot of the info read verbatim is because it is technical and dense, and reading it helps people hear it. Hopefully whichever way helps your group.

\$25 registration fee - Is it possible to put on an assembly - Tommy, the assembly chairperson. It's possible. What happens to rest of money? Does it go back to area?

Check state and county venues, they are less expensive. Districts decide what to charge, to cover expenses. Suggested districts can give report backs, not required, but helps in planning. Districts that make money, it is up to them to decide what to do with extra funds (return or use in district).

Have you noticed that venues for meetings are going away, churches are more reluctant to host A.A.ers. Ideas for venues or meetings:

Mathea - On the beach

Adinah - It's important how we are and how we leave places. (Cigarette butts, didn't follow parking rules, clogged toilets, didn't pay attention to being careful. If you have a place, take care of it.

Bob- People with court cards, we aren't police, we cannot enforce how we tell people how to act. Lack of communication - are we making it clear how to demonstrate making meeting better.

Steve -Our group put on notice because of our behavior, we may lose our meeting place, the challenge is we meet at 6:30, opened up at 5:30 AM set up person. Problems with doors not working. Some well intended Alcoholics get impatient, break in, security cameras see that. We have to behave and follow rules of the facilities. We pay rent, we are guests. Facilities unwilling to rent to us, most of the time the problem lies with us.

Jack - attitude problem. We meeting in churches, and have this idea they have to take us in, churches don't like some of our language. We have an attitude that's the way I am, and you have to take me as I am. Maybe we do, but churches don't. Our purpose is to get back into the mainstream of life.

Tommy -Hospital - gone through many administrations, hospital moves them because of smoking. Home group members decided we had to police it if we wanted to keep the meetings area. People from the hospital attended the meeting. The hospital does not have to put up with us, we need to do better if we want to keep our home group

Cheryl - Old group in Kailua Kona was asked to leave because no one thought to thank the church. So meeting moved and has been there for 12+ years, going through different pastors. Woman behind church had complaints about the noise. She submitted a TRO and the church stopped all meetings after 5:00PM. We made modification to decrease noise. We need to be respectful of the churches where we meet. IT's up to us who have been around a while to support those who are out of line, or old timers who use the "F" word too often. Respect, resiliency, relationship, responsibility, and resourcefulness.

Maria - It starts with education, you cannot expect to act a certain way unless they know better. On Maui, I've seen disrespect on old timers looking down upon people because they don't understand. Many haven't had contact with a wet drunk. Very important at the level of drug courts and treatment centers to educate. Remember what it was like and pass it on. Aloha House has panel meeting with A.A. Important for people to be trained to show people how to act.

Bill - good question. More and more a factor in A.A. Still have problems with people coming to meetings, attitude. We have to create the idea, solution to look for we are self supporting of our own environments and being subsidized by churches and places for our venues. Particularly on Oahu. Prejudice toward Alano clubs, but something we should look to.

Wayne - morning meetings, monthly basis tried again and again. Serious about finding a venue that are OK that we are there. Some churches can accept contributions, but not rent.

Bob- In North Hawaii we have a large number of meetings at Saint James Church. The A.A. group has been impeccable. The church is locked, AA. Is responsible for setting up and cleaning up, provide contributions to the church (not rent). Member come an hour before, rake the grave, clean up before and after and the meeting has been there for at least 20 years. Two other venues no problems, people clean up, and have wonderful relationship with the pastor. It can be done if you respect the church. Problem with someone other than A.A. group did not clean up bathroom. Use a key for bathroom, and make sure they are clean when we leave. Have respect for the church. We painted the church, with no cost to the church.

Lunch at 12:20 (Finance Committee Meeting)

Chair, Cheryl:

Please make travel arrangements to allow you to be here until we adjourn.

We're here to carry the message to the alcoholic.

Book your flights early, and register early so the district has can get organized and has funds to purchase what they need (transportation, homestay, meals).

Be respectful of each other

Jan 21-22 is next assembly, east Hawaii. Info posted on the area 17 website.

A.A. is bigger than all of us, A.A. will continue to flourish, that is what we all really want.

Upside down triangle reviewed - explains the service structure.

Final Conference Report - Delegate - Linda McD.

Jim - intro and overview of final conference report, and why you should read every word from cover to cover.

Jim - Asked to make this presentation a few years ago, but wasn't able to.

I love this book, (GC Report) - I picked four things that I always look at

1. On page 6 is next year's agenda for next years GSC, so we can begin to prepare for next year.
2. It's kind of fun, pages 83-84 there are short bios of all the trustees - to me those are interesting. Bill talked about how removed the board was from A.A. back before we had a service structure, there had to be a way to bring the board closer to us. To me, the bios help. Rod is the first one, the Pacific Regional Trustee.
3. This took awhile. The book has in it a ton of information. I have a guy in the morning meeting that I go into on Kauai that is always asking me about numbers. Look on page 78, there is what we contribute to GSO 51.7% of our groups contribute to GSO. Overall only 43.9% US and Canada group contribute, so it tells us where we are in relation to others.
4. When you read it, the opening remarks that Linda got to hear in New York are there. It helps us know where A.A. as a whole is. Page 4 comment, everyone is doing everything they can to assure the success of Alcoholics Anonymous. That comment is the attitude with which we need to approach the work that we do.

Linda McD. - Thank you Jim for stepping in at such short notice. I'm not good at winging it. More specific info. I do want to try and impart to you the significance of the conference. An assembly is similar to the conference. What happens at the conference is the business of Alcoholics Anonymous. I give me chicken skin to be trusted to do the work of Alcoholics Anonymous.

If you arrive late, leave early, chatting or whatever, you're not involved in the business of Alcoholics. Sorry if that sounds preachy, but that is what I believe.

Reiterate a few things that I talked about yesterday:

There is a plethora of information in the report. All presentations, full wording are in here. Each one is skillfully crafted and beautifully presented. The same topics that we talked about last April at the Inform The Delegate assembly. Interesting to see what other delegates from other areas have to say about those topics.

Also, we might want to consider, starting on page 6, Agenda - that is the framework of our conference agenda for 2012. It would be a good idea, some of the districts have workshops, etc. - these would make great workshop topics.

Workshop at the conference- we break up into groups, so we have a small number of people but each group is talking about the topic - safety in A.A. our common welfare. We have talked about predators in A.A., what constitutes predatory behavior. We will be talking about this with people from US and Canada. We are going to be taking any action, but it will be interesting.

Advisory actions are pages 6-10. If you're interested, we came up with a policy on that but it seems vague, it will be considered on a case by case basis.

Agenda items which did not result in advisor actions - sometimes taken back to committee, sometimes item might have been picked, sometimes need more information. Decide whether or not to develop new literature. Next year that committee might review a draft copy. You guys don't see that. I was on the special needs pamphlet, we read every story on committee and talked about each one of them. Most of the work is done in committee, and each agenda item is reported on.

I wondered why some of the agenda items die, we do we talk about them at the delegate assembly. One of the greatest value of ITD is informing you. You get these topics which might seem dry, out there, but you have to look them up, research, and talk about it. That's how we operate. I learned things I didn't know about. The one about the charter, there was an item regarding the original conference charter and the current one. Until 1984 the changes were not taken over. Some people didn't like that and wanted the Original conference charter to declare that it is the original conference charter, but we didn't because it is not the original one.

It is physically grueling and it is the most spiritual experience that I've had in a while. I just love it.

The inventory -on pages 11-13 are the inventory questions that will be covered in a 3 year period starting in 2013. Next year I will get the inventory topics. I will bring them to you, ask for input and ideas. That is our link to A.A. as a whole. This is the business of Alcoholics Anonymous. Every item that came from the process did not come from someone in GSO, it all came out of the conference process. It's amazing.

So, if you have question, I'll take them now.

I do want to tell you I am available within certain constraints for workshops, primary purpose days, whatever you want me to do between now and the end of the year. If you want me to report on anything at any of your events, let me know. Interisland travel might be difficult but we'll see what we'll work out.

Conference theme request have all been taken, that means you're going to send them to me. I will compile all the information and send them to GSO. Due by mid December, so please get them to me by early December. But better to get it to me earlier.

GSO is asking for suggestions for the 1013 GSC Theme and workshop topic.

Q/A OK, thank you.

Ad Hoc committee of S&G, Ken K. -

Update Members Eric, Tommy, Matt, Diane, and Jim We will give you a report at the next assembly.

Convention, Patti - S & G of convention - Last time it was looked it was 2004. 2009 Went over, corrected punctuation and grammar. Committee looking at revising it is Bob, Heidi, and Kunane. Hopefully by next assembly you will have it. Thank you

Cheryl - planned this this month so you would have the final conference report, so you would have it too look at. Why do we get the information for ITD so late? Because they don't have their meeting in NY until later, they give to Linda, she gives to the DCMs. Now I understand why it happens this way. Because we are short on time, but we can look ahead as see what some of the things that will be discussed are.

Local Forums - are put on by a particular area, members from GSO come and answer questions. It was an amazing experience, those forums aren't accessible to us, to general A.A. member unless they have funds to travel, which is sometimes tough. I'm looking into the idea of having a Local Forum. This is something that probably won't happen until the following year (not next year) [chair@area17aa.org](mailto:chair@area17aa.org) you can reach Linda at [delegate@area17aa.org](mailto:delegate@area17aa.org)

An easy way to find the officers or area chairs, go to area website, and you can find them listed. Same thing for DCMs - you can email DCM's as well.

Please check your emails regularly. When you don't check the regularly you won't be getting those emails in a timely manner. Pass that on to folks in your district

Area website itself is a wealth of information - reports, area events listed, check it out to see what is going on.

Donna - (attended Forum and bridging the gap) - verbatim workshop I attended carrying the message to the elder committee. Use term elder rather than elderly. The workshop listed possible ways to reach the elder community. ways to reach the elder population.

There will be a final forum report soon, on the aa.org website.

Q/A what was principal focus of recommendation - reach elders wherever they are.

Donna also went to bridging the gap workshop - verbatim A.A. and non A.A. presented [www.btb.www.org](http://www.btb.www.org) for anyone who needs a bridge. Establish temporary contacts. Biggest need is for male correspondence.

Break at 2:20

Played the four versions of the public service announcements used by East Hawaii. Young person, woman, kupuna, man. Script was provided by GSO.

What to take back to your home group/District - Area Chair, Cheryl N.

Here is a summary of the highlights of the weekend.

. The 2012 Area 17 Budget was passed.

. Our new Grapevine/La Vina Area Chair was confirmed - Clifford S. He is available at [grapevine@area17aa.org](mailto:grapevine@area17aa.org).

. Tongan Literature Proposal - The proposal that Hawaii Area request GSO to translate "How It Works" and "Is AA for You?" into Tongan was passed.

. Proposal - Area 17 & Hawaii Convention. The proposal by District 7 to "End the Formal Association between AA Area 17 and Annual Hawaii State Convention" was discussed. Review this with your home groups and get their input. Any questions - Alfred N., DCM District 7, East Hawaii can be reached at [dcm7@area17aa.org](mailto:dcm7@area17aa.org).

. Archivist resignation. Heidi G., Area 17's Non Rotating Archivist/Archives Standing Committee chair, resigned. A big Mahalo to Heidi for serving in the position. The position is open. Anyone interested, or for questions, please contact Area chair, Cheryl N., at [chair@area17aa.org](mailto:chair@area17aa.org).

. Archives Ad Hoc committee - An ad hoc committee to continue the plan to review archives and make recommendations to the assembly at the Inventory Assembly was formed. Those interested in volunteering contact Linda McD @ [delegate@area17aa.org](mailto:delegate@area17aa.org).

. Inventory questions - Questions to be discussed at the Inventory Assembly in Hilo, Jan. 21 - 22, 2012, will be posted on the website by October 15. If you would like to suggest a question, please send it to Cheryl N, Area Chair, at [chair@area17aa.org](mailto:chair@area17aa.org) for consideration.

. Hawaiian Miles for Area - If you are flying on Hawaiian Airlines, you can help Area 17 accumulate miles for Area travel. See "Hawaiian Miles for Area" on home page of website - [area17aa.org](http://area17aa.org).

Mahalo for the opportunity to serve and for the incredible life I have today. Cheryl N.

Bob - DCM's hosting 2012 event, please email Bob.

What's on your mind?:

Chris - PI -Speakers - anyone interested in speaking at the public level, please contact [pi@area17aa.org](mailto:pi@area17aa.org)

Matt - approved budget for \$29K. which includes \$5K for the archives, this is money that will be spent. That is 16% of next years budget. That \$5K, the only place I get to see that is at the conference. IT's neat stuff, I love A.A. history, but it's out of proportion to our mission. That stuff is stuff. I'd like us to get focused on this. We have an opportunity to look at this now. I want that money to carry the message, help with travel.

Next years GSC has archives on the agenda.

Pay someone to digitalize it. I hope that ad hoc committee will get on with this, solve problem.

Lauren - Speak on archives. Our group will throw a fit if it's on the budget next year. It's not a new issue. We need to get it done. We need people to go in there and sort it out. Once it's digitized, lets toss it, we don't need to hold on to the actual thing. Go through that locker.

Jim - There is a mens retreat on Kauai, Oct 27-30<sup>th</sup>. Budget we passed - wake the left over food from event to the pick up truck. When folks see a need, they take care of it. We're the ones that understand what this budget is about. We need to go out and be sure that other folks are aware of the need we have. When the need is clearly defined, it gets answered.

Palani - that everyone for their work, service, dedication, and give everyone a round of applause.

Linda - Insight this morning - yesterday thinking back of wh at I said that was on my mind, it sounded like I was complaining about my home groups. The insight was that they came here, selected me as a GSR, and pay for me to go to assemblies so I'll take message that was shared today at our assemblies. I'm the trusted servant, they are the one that trusts me to do the best job I can do.

Grateful they allowed me the honor and privilege of being a trusted servant, who would have though me? Trusted? Each one here, you too are trusted servants, so that you v ery much for letting me be of service.

Adinah - 1. Regional rep for international women's conference happening in Washington D.C. I'm the registrar. 2. Service works,because I'm in service I get things as a result of what I wouldn't get if I were not in service.

Kathy - heard at a meeting, said by an old timer "stick with the winners." No, "stick with whoever's left" there's no reason to leave an assembly early.

Corrina - thank everybody here, HP. Pleasure to be at an assembly, it's part of my service. Thank God for A.A. Two people in service at my meeting. Struggle to keep it together, I believe in HP. When I come here I get excited. This is fun. I don't usually share at the mike. Thank you so much. I worked last night, but I'm here. Sometimes could barely keep my head up Thank you.

Linda McD. - One though dancing around my head. Yesterday morning I set up a bok, any paper left we'll recycle. Put recycling in box instead of throwing it out.

Ask it Basket : Do you feel that the amount of work done at committee meetins justified expense to the area? Linda McD. Yes,we're looking at alternatives. Including video conferencing, so people who are technically oriented will give us info on that.

Could we find a way to consider our finances?

Could the area committee meet on Friday night of assemblies? This is a practice in other areas. Oregon.the way we schedule our committee meetings and assemblies would be difficult for committee members to meet of Friday night Officers and committee chairs meet to plan the net assembly. Difficult to meet before and plan the next day, or one for two months out. All of othe planning before these committee meetings and assemblies. Difficult for chair to come up with two separate agendas.

Cheryl -Districts hosting next years committee meetings. Last year standing chairs participated in workshops the same weekend as committee meetings: CNS, Tri Island and Waianae, have committee meetings next year. Just an idea, way we can be prudent with travel expenses.

Archive.org is a publically available so isn't that breaking anonymity and the traditions ? All things put on A.A. website are anonymity protected. No last names on there. Unless they are non alcoholic trustees.

Wayne - I heard this weekend GSR is most important person in the service structure. I also heard about chanting this weekend. The alcoholic one day sober, lets represent A. A.

Ron - Thank committee, second budget assembly. Thank volunteers and our host.

Bill - sponsee with 7<sup>th</sup> month wonders where I go every month. Why don't you tag along? He comes to district meeting, becomes member of PI. Continues to come to district meeting, job is to PSA for us on Maui. Starts sharing with a guy with 3-4 days about experience, and enthusiasm. The person with 3-4 months asks the guy to sponsor him.

Applause to Windward District. Overcame challenges such as not having a kitchen.

Motion to adjourn by Mathea, seconded by Mark. All in favor. :-D

Host DCM Announcements  
Adjourn at with Declaration of Unity

Agenda subject to change due to time management.

Declaration of Unity - This we owe to AA's future,  
To place our common welfare first,  
To keep our fellowship united,  
For on AA unity depend our lives  
And the lives of those to come.